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**TRAVANCORE**

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

**1102 M. E.**  
**1926—1927.**

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# CONTENTS

Map of Travancore-

Frontispiece.

## CHAPTER I.

### General.

	PAGE
Situation and Area	1
Physical Features	"
Population	2
Travancore compared with other States	2
Historical sketch	"
The Calendar	4
The Currency	5
The Anchal	"
The Ruling Family	"
His Highness the Maharaja's Education	6
The Tirumadampu of H. H. the Maha Raja	"
The British Representative	7

## CHAPTER II.

### System of Government.

The Ruler	8
The Chief Executive Officer	"
Administration	"
Taxation	9
Application of Revenue	10
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,	
Early history	"
Growth of powers	11
Present constitution	"
Present powers	12
The franchise	"
Votes for Women	"
Emergency legislation	"
THE POPULAR ASSEMBLY.	
Functions	13
Composition	"
Business proceedings	"

## CHAPTER III.

### Finance.

<i>Chart showing the Revenue and Expenditure charged to Revenue from 1092 to 1102</i>	<i>facing page</i>	14
Statement of Revenue and Expenditure	...	14
Revenue	...	15
<i>Diagram showing the proportion of Expenditure on various Heads</i>	<i>facing page</i>	17
Expenditure	...	17



	PAGE
Assets and Liabilities	18
Capital Outlay	19
Closing Balance	"
Savings Bank Deposits	"
Sinking Funds	"
Investments, Deposits and Loans	30
<b>CHAPTER IV.</b>	
<b>Main Heads of Revenue.</b>	
<b>LAND REVENUE</b>	
Basis of Land Rights	21
Fixity of Rights	22
Principles of Taxation	"
Revenue Settlements	"
Classification of Tenures	23
Method of Assessment	"
Form of Tax-payment	"
Land Revenue Administration	24
Extension of Cultivation	"
Distribution of Land	"
Sale proceeds of Land	25
Demand, Collection and Balance	"
Coercive Action	"
Revenue Cases	26
Disposal of Puduval Lands	"
Disposal of Waste Lands	"
Lands for Landless Classes	27
Lands for Ex-service Men	"
Puduval Rules Committee	28
Agricultural Loans	"
Markets	"
Conversion in the Kodayar Area	29
Irrigation Boards	"
Land Colonisation	"
Swampy Areas	"
Kandukrishi Lands	"
Maintenance of Land Records	30
Survey Training of Revenue Officers	31
<b>SURVEY</b>	
Work of the Survey Department	"
Cadastral Surveys	"
Puduval Survey	32
Survey Schools	"
Survey of Village Sites	"
Finance	"
<b>INCOME-TAX</b>	
Administration	33
Assessment Proceedings	"
Demand, Collection and Balance	34
Appeals and Revision Petitions	"
Receipts and Expenditure	"

SALT REVENUE

Control	...	35
System	...	"
Home Salt	...	36
Foreign Salt	...	37
Salt Consumption	...	38
Selling Price of Salt	...	"
Receipts and Expenditure	...	"

EXCISE REVENUE

Sources of Revenue	...	39
Excise System	...	"
Abkari Policy	...	40
General Administrative Measures	...	"
Abkari Contract	...	41
Country Liquor Shops	...	"
Arrack	...	"
Toddy	...	42
Tree Tax	...	43
Foreign Liquor	...	44
Abkari Revenue	...	"
System of Opium and Ganja Sales	...	45
Consumption of Opium and Ganja	...	"
Supply and Sale of Tobacco	...	46
Consumption of Tobacco	...	"
Excise Offences	...	"
Discipline in the Department	...	47
Receipts and Expenditure	...	"

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Import Duty	...	48
Export Duty	...	"
Tariff Changes	...	49
Receipts under Imports and Exports	...	"
Receipts and Expenditure	...	50

FOREST DEPARTMENT

Historical Survey	...	"
<i>Chart showing Forest Revenue and Expenditure and Forest Area</i>	<i>facing page</i>	51
Area under Forests	...	51
Forest Policy	...	"
Reserved Forests	...	52
Forest Settlement	...	"
Working Plans	...	"
Sylviculture	...	53
Taungya System	...	"
Exploitation of Timber	...	54
Minor Forest Produce	...	"
Elephants	...	55
Forest Protection	...	"
Forest School	...	56
Finance	...	"

	PAGE
<b>STAMPS</b>	
Control	57
Manufacture	58
Value of Stamps	"
Receipts and Expenditure	59
<b>CHAPTER V.</b>	
<b>Justice and Crime.</b>	
<b>JUDICIAL SYSTEM</b>	60
<b>THE JUDICIARY</b>	62
Appointment	"
Security of Office	"
Independence	63
<b>CRIMINAL JUSTICE</b>	
Number of Criminal Courts	"
<b>CRIME</b>	
Offences	"
Female Offenders	64
Juveniles	"
Public Servants Prosecuted	"
<b>MAGISTRATES' COURTS</b>	65
Original Work	"
Bench Magistrates' Courts	"
Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts	"
Appellate Work	66
Miscellaneous Work	"
Fines	"
<b>SESSIONS COURTS</b>	67
Original Work	"
Appellate Work	"
Miscellaneous Work	"
Fines	"
<b>HIGH COURT</b>	"
Referred Trials	"
Appeals	68
Miscellaneous	"
<b>EXTRADITION</b>	"
<b>CIVIL JUSTICE</b>	
Number of Courts	69
Litigation in General	"
<b>ORIGINAL LITIGATION</b>	70
Village Panchayat Courts	71
Munsiffs' Courts	"
District Courts	72
Execution of Decrees	"
<b>APPELLATE JURISDICTION</b>	73
District Courts	"
High Court	74
Finance	75

CHAPTER VI.

Legislative Council Sessions

	PAGE
Legislation	76
Bills	"
Financial Business	77
Questions	"
Resolutions	"
Miscellaneous	78

CHAPTER VII.

Protection.

POLICE

Strength, Recruitment and Discipline	79
Crimes	80
Counterfeiting and Currency	81
Investigation	82
Magisterial Delays	"
Miscellaneous	"
Finger Print Bureau	83
Motor Traffic	"
Hackney Carriages	"
Finance	84

ARMY

Personnel	"
Strength and Discipline	85
Receipts and Expenditure	"

ARMS AND AMMUNITION

86

CENTRAL PRISON

Strength	"
Convicted Prisoners	"
Execution and Escape	87
Discipline and Conduct	"
Disease and Mortality	"
Receipts and Expenditure	88
Cost of Maintenance	"

LOCK-UPS

"

REGISTRATION

Registry Offices	89
Number of Documents	"
Value of Documents	"
Classes of Documents	"
Chitties	90
Receipts and Expenditure	91

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

"

## CHAPTER VIII.

## Production and Industry.

	PAGE
<i>Rainfall Chart</i> <i>facing page</i>	92
SEASON AND RAINFALL	92
AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES	
Soil Survey	93
Biological Analysis of Soils	93
Reclamation of Kari Lands	94
Reclamation of Alkali Soils	94
Manures	95
Agricultural Implements and Machinery	95
CROPS	
Paddy	96
Cocoanut	96
Tapoca	97
Pepper	97
Ginger	97
Rubber	97
Other Crops	98
Cattle-breeding	98
Poultry farming	98
Apiculture	99
Sericulture	99
Blanket Weaving	99
Agricultural Education	99
Veterinary	99
FISHERIES	100
Piscicultural Experiments	100
Shank Fisheries	101
Fish Industries	101
Education of Fishermen	101
Co-operation among Fishermen	101
Agricultural Co-operation	101
Receipts and Expenditure	101
INDUSTRIES AND GEOLOGY	
Mineral Survey	103
Under-ground Water Supply	103
Mineral Production	103
INDUSTRIES	
Industrial Research Laboratory	104
Experimental Tannery	104
Textile Branch	104
Industrial Engineering	105
Cottage Industries	105
FACTORY INDUSTRIES	
Match Manufacture	106
Sugar Manufacture	106
Candle Manufacture	106

## TECHNICAL AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION

School of Arts	...	106
Srimulam Technical School	...	"
Carpentry and Smithery School	...	"
S. M. R. V. Technical Institute	...	107
School of Commerce	...	"
Industrial Schools	...	"
Miscellaneous	...	"
Finance	...	108

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Constitution and Meetings	...	109
Work of the Board	...	110
Finance	...	111

## JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

Number of Companies	...	"
Total Capital	...	"
Associations	...	112
Prosecutions	...	"
Foreign Companies	...	"
Receipts and Expenditure	...	"

## CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

## CONSTITUTION OF SOCIETIES

<i>Chart showing progress of the Co-operative movement.</i>	<i>facing page</i>	<i>113</i>
Number and nature of Societies	...	113
Membership	...	"

## FINANCES

<i>Chart showing Financial Progress of the Co-operative movement</i>	<i>facing page</i>	<i>114</i>
Share Capital	...	114
Deposits	...	"
Reserve Fund	...	"
Loans	...	115
Working Capital	...	"

## WORKING OF SOCIETIES

The Central Co-operative Bank	...	116
Taluk Banks	...	"
Urban Banks	...	117
Agricultural Societies	...	"
Non-Agricultural Societies	...	"
Distributive Societies	...	"
Societies for Depressed Classes	...	"
Supervising Unions	...	118
Miscellaneous	...	"
Cost of working the Regulation	...	119

## FACTORIES

Distribution and Classification	...	"
---------------------------------	-----	---

	PAGE.
Labour conditions ...	120
PATENTS AND DESIGNS ...	..
<b>CHAPTER IX.</b>	
<b>Buildings, Communications and Irrigation.</b>	
<b>PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT</b>	
Personnel ...	121
Grant and Outlay ...	..
<i>Diagram showing Public Works Expenditure</i>	
<i>facing page</i>	122
Communications ...	122
Bridges ...	124
Buildings ...	..
Mode of Construction ...	..
Protective Irrigation ...	..
Kodayar Irrigation System ...	125
Wells ...	..
Establishment ...	..
<b>PROJECTS</b>	
Western out-let Road ...	126
Trivandrum Water Supply ...	..
Trivandrum Electric Supply ...	..
Quilon Pier ...	..
Trivandrum Telephone System ...	..
Alleppey-Cochin Telephone ...	127
Revenue Receipts ...	..
<b>MARAMAT DEPARTMENT</b>	
General Features ...	..
Maramat Works ...	..
Devaswom Maramat Works ..	128
Other Works ...	..
Expenditure on Public Works ..	..
<b>RAILWAYS</b>	
Railway Surveys ..	..
Receipts and expenditure ...	129
<b>ANCHAL</b>	
Offices and Letter Boxes ...	..
Mail lines ...	130
Covers Posted ..	..
Delivery of Covers ...	..
Value Payable and Insured Articles ...	..
Hundies Issued and Paid ...	131
Savings Bank ...	..
Dead Letter Office ...	..
Miscellaneous ...	..
Receipts and Expenditure ...	132

## CHAPTER X.

## Commerce.

PAGE.

## TRADE

Total value of Trade	...	133
Trade Routes	...	"
Imports and Exports	...	"
Direction of Trade	...	134

## PORTS

Functions of Marine Department	...	"
Weather	...	135
Shipping	...	"
Alleppey Port	...	"
Miscellaneous	...	"
Receipts and Expenditure	...	136

## CHAPTER XI.

## Medical Relief and Vital Statistics.

## MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Personnel	...	137
System of Medical Aid	...	"
Medical Institutions and Officers	...	138
Medical Relief	...	"
Child Welfare	...	139
Nursing Staff	...	"
Treatment of Leprosy	...	140
Treatment of Tuberculosis	...	"
Diseases in the State	...	"
Post-mortem	...	"

## SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS

General Hospital, Trivandrum	...	"
Women & Children's Hospital, Trivandrum	...	141
Victoria Hospital, Quilon	...	"
Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum	...	"
Hospital for Lepers, Trivandrum	...	142
Hospital for Mental Diseases, Trivandrum	...	"
Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory	...	"
Receipts and Expenditure	...	143

## DEPARTMENT OF AYURVEDA

Ayurveda Institutions	...	"
Medical Relief	...	144
Ayurveda Educational Institutions	...	"
Receipts and Expenditure	...	145

## VITAL STATISTICS

Work of the Sanitary Department	...	"
<i>Graph showing Birth Rate:</i>	<i>facing page</i>	145
<i>Graph showing Death Rate:</i>	<i>facing page</i>	"
Births and Deaths	...	"
Vaccination	...	146
Rural Sanitation	...	"



	PAGE.
Epidemics ...	147
<i>Graph showing Deaths from Principal Causes</i>	
<i>facing page</i>	147
Other Diseases ...	"
Sanitary Class ...	"
Receipts and Expenditure ...	"
CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT.	148
CHAPTER XII.	
Public Instruction.	
Educational System ...	149
Educational Policy ...	150
<i>Diagram showing Number of Recognised Educational Institutions</i>	
<i>facing page</i>	151
<i>Diagram showing Strength in Recognised Educational Institutions</i>	
<i>facing page</i>	"
GENERAL STATISTICS	
Number and Strength of Educational Institutions ...	"
Distribution of Pupils ...	152
Progress of Education amongst certain Communities...	153
DIRECTION	
Direction and Administration ...	"
Outstanding Events ...	"
COLLEGE EDUCATION ...	154
Number and Strength of Colleges ...	"
His Highness the Maharajah's College of Science ...	155
His Highness the Maharajah's College of Arts ...	"
His Highness the Maharajah's College for Women ...	156
Private Colleges ...	157
Training College, Trivandrum ...	"
Sanskrit College, Trivandrum ...	158
Expenditure on College Education ...	"
ENGLISH EDUCATION	
Number and strength of English Schools ...	158
Medical Inspection ...	159
English School Leaving Certificate Examination ...	"
Expenditure on English Education ...	"
VERNACULAR EDUCATION	
Number and Strength of Vernacular Schools ...	"
Vernacular School Leaving Examination ...	160
Double Shift System ...	"
Teachers' Associations ...	"
English in Vernacular Schools ...	"
Tamil Schools ...	161
Expenditure on Vernacular Education ...	"
FEMALE EDUCATION	
Number and Strength of Educational Institutions for Girls	"

Distribution of Girls amongst various Institutions	...	161
Examination Results	...	162
Special classes for Girls	...	"
Co-education	...	"
Instruction in Music	...	163
<b>SPECIAL SCHOOL EDUCATION</b>		
Training Schools	...	"
Technical Education	...	"
Reformatory School	...	"
Sanskrit Schools	...	164
Night Schools	...	"
<b>EDUCATION OF SPECIAL CLASSES</b>		
Rajas	...	"
Malayala Brahmins	...	"
Mahomedans	...	"
Ezhavas	...	165
Depressed Classes	...	"
Backward Classes	...	"
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>		
Hostels and Boarding Houses	...	"
Orphanages	...	166
Scholarships and Stipends	...	"
Fee Concessions	...	"
Manual Training	...	167
Spinning	...	"
Libraries and Reading Rooms	...	"
Text Book Committees	...	"
Educational Museum and Bureau	...	"
Grants-in-aid	...	"
<i>Diagram showing Educational Expenditure</i>	<i>facing page</i>	<i>168</i>
Finance	...	168
<b>LAW COLLEGE</b>		
Strength	...	"
Examination Results	...	"
Receipts and Expenditure	...	169

**CHAPTER XIII.****Local Self-Government.**

General Features	...	170
Area and Population	...	"
Meetings	...	"
Public Health	...	"
Vaccination	...	171
Prosecutions	...	"
Finance	...	"
Miscellaneous	...	172
Incidence of Taxation	...	"

## CHAPTER XIV.

## Hindu Religious and Charitable Institutions.

	PAGE.
General Features	173
Devaswoms, Major, Minor and Petty	174
Aided and Un-aided Devaswoms	175
Renovation and Reconstruction of Temples	176
Enquiries	176
Verification of Thiruvabharanam	177
Personal Deposit Devaswoms	177
Miscellaneous	"
Sherattalai Pooram	"
Temple Elephants	"
Devaswom Fund	"
Expenditure on Devaswoms and Charities	178

## CHAPTER XV.

## Miscellaneous

## MINT

Control	179
Minting	"
Finance	"
Coins in circulation	"
Coins cut	180

## GOVERNMENT PRESS

Nature of work done	181
Plant	"
Out-turn	"
Gazette	"
Receipts and Expenditure	182

## STATIONERY

" "

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

" 183

## PUBLICATION OF SANSKRIT MANUSCRIPTS

" "

## PUBLICATION OF MALAYALAM MANUSCRIPTS

" 184

## PRESSES AND PUBLICATIONS

" 185

## Printing Presses

" "

## Newspapers and Publications

" "

## MUSEUM AND PUBLIC GARDENS

" "

## TRIVANDRUM PUBLIC LIBRARY

" 186

## OBSERVATORY

" "

## STATE LIFE INSURANCE

## Control

" 187

## Proposals and Policies

" "

## Claims

" "

## Fund Account

" "

	PAGE.
SAVINGS BANKS	
<i>Chart showing Balances under Savings Bank Deposits</i>	
<i>facing page</i>	188
General Features	188
Volume of Business	"
Balances	"
<i>Chart showing Progress of Business in Savings Banks</i>	
<i>facing page</i>	189
Progress of Business	189
Interest	190
POPULAR ASSEMBLY	"
INDEX	191

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# CHAPTER I.

## GENERAL.

M. E. 1102 (AUGUST 1926—AUGUST 1927).

Travancore (Malayalam-*Thiruvithamkur*) is the most southern of Indian States and occupies the south-west portion of the Indian peninsula. It forms an irregular triangle, with its apex at Cape Comorin,

*Situation and Area.* between  $8^{\circ} 4'$  and  $10^{\circ} 22'$  North Latitude and between  $76^{\circ} 13'$  and  $77^{\circ} 38'$  East

Longitude. On the north lie the State of Cochin and the British district of Coimbatore. The British districts of Madura and Tinnevely constitute its eastern boundary and on the west and south lie the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. The State has an area of 7,625 square miles, its extreme length from north to south being 174 miles and its extreme width 75 miles.

2. The Western Ghats form a continuous mountain chain of varying altitude from north to south walling in the State on its eastern boundary. From these heights the

*Physical Features.* country undulates to the west over hills of dense vegetation till it reaches the cultivated plains which skirt the backwaters and the

Arabian Sea. Extensive tea and cardamom plantations occupy most of the higher elevations; pepper, rubber, ginger and turmeric flourish on the lesser uplands; and in both regions are reserved forests of valuable timber both of virgin growth and of scientific planting. There are stretches of rice cultivation terraced along the valleys and this cultivation is also extensively carried on in the irrigated areas towards the south; in the Nanjinad in the south; and in the fens and reclamations of Kuttanad in North Travancore. The broad coast-belt and the shores of the back-waters are covered with dense cocoanut

plantations, while all over the plains are grown in addition around homesteads a variety of trees such as the areca, the jack, the mango, the tamarind, the cashew, etc. Tapioca is cultivated almost everywhere in the lower levels and the raising of yams, beans and gram is not inconsiderable. The State reserved forests cover an extent of slightly less than a third of the entire area and are well timbered with teak, blackwood, ebony, jack, anjili, etc. The elephant, the leopard, the bison, the bear, the sambur and a variety of small game are plentiful in the forests. Characteristic features of the country are the broad lagoons or backwaters connected by navigable canals along the entire littoral and the numerous rivers and streams flowing westward to the sea. No extremes of temperature are known in the low country the prevailing characteristic of which is a warm humidity. But the country cools as it climbs to the bracing heights of Peermade, the Cardamom Hills, the High Range and the Ponmudi Hills. Travancore receives a share of both the South-West and the North-East monsoons, the former in a larger measure than the latter. The South-West monsoon begins about the middle of Idavam (May-June) and the North-East monsoon commences in the month of Thulam (October-November). The rainfall is generally heavy, averaging about 89 inches per year. Rice, fish and tapioca are the staple food of the people.

3. The population of the State, according to the Census of 1921, is 4,006,062 (2,032,553 males and 1,973,509 females), which shows an increase of 16·8

*Population.* per cent over the figure at the previous Census, viz., 3,428,975. There was therefore in 1921 an average density of 525 persons to the square mile. If the area under forest and the backwaters are excluded, the populated area is about 5,000 square miles which would show a density of population of approximately 801 to the square mile. The present population is estimated at about 4,400,000 which would give, on the above bases, a density of 577 or 880 respectively to the square mile. Hinduism is the predominant religion and its followers, divided into

various caste groupings, constituted about two-thirds (2,549,664) of the entire population at the Census of 1921, while the denominations of Christians, including the ancient Syrian Christians, represent more than one-fourth (1,172,934). Mahomedans number about one-fifteenth (270,478). The Hindus have increased by 11·7 per cent, the Mahomedans by 19·4 per cent and the Christians by 29·8 per cent during the last decennial period. Except among a small section of immigrant Moslems and among Nambudiri Brahmins, the purdah system is unknown in Travancore. Women generally enjoy a freedom unique in India and their complete equality with men as well as their general education has brought about their active participation in affairs.

4. In area Travancore occupies the seventeenth place among the Indian States. In population it holds the third place.

*Travancore compared with other States.* Although Hyderabad is eleven times as large as Travancore, it is only thrice as populous. Mysore, Gwalior and Ceylon are four times as extensive but the number of their peoples is only one and one-half, three-fourths and nine-eighths respectively of that of Travancore. Baroda which is of about the same area has only between one-half and three-fourths its population. In revenue Travancore ranks after Hyderabad, Mysore and Kashmir.

5. The early history of Travancore is in great part traditional; but there is little doubt that the Maharaja is the representative of the Chera dynasty, one

*Historical Sketch.* of the three great Hindu dynasties which exercised sovereignty at one time in Southern India. In later historic times the country now

comprised in Travancore consisted of some four or five separate States, the more important of which were Attingal, Venad and Desinganad and it was with these that the Portuguese, the Dutch, the Danes and the English first had relations. The English first settled at Anjengo which they obtained on a grant from the queen of Attingal in 1684. Marthanda Varma, son of the queen of Attingal, became in 1729 the Adhipadi of



Venad. He succeeded in crushing the Ettuveetil Pillamar, the feudal chieftains of the eight *desoms*, who had striven against the power of the Rajas for over a century. Thereafter he grew in strength and power and, having amalgamated the Attingal State with Venad on a treaty engagement that none but the offspring of the Ranis of Attingal shall succeed to the amalgamated State, he proceeded on a campaign of conquest with the help of his able minister Ramien Dalava and of the Venad Valia Capitan, Eustachius Benedictus deLannoy who was captured in a Dutch frigate and whom the Raja had befriended. By the time of Marthanda Varma's death in 1758 practically the whole of modern Travancore had been brought under his sway. He established order, settled the country and dedicated it to Sri Padmanabha Swami and he and his successors, Rajas or Ranis of Travancore, have since ruled as the Dasas or Sevinis of the Deity. In the wars in which the East India Company were engaged in the Karnatic and in Mysore in the 18th century, the Travancore State rendered military assistance to the British. Travancore was reckoned as one of the staunchest allies of the British Power and was included in the Treaty made in 1784 between the East India Company and the Sultan of Mysore. In view of the protection of the State from possible inroads by Tippu Sultan, an arrangement was come to in 1788 with the East India Company, and in 1795 a formal treaty was concluded, by which the Company agreed to protect Travancore from all foreign enemies. In 1805 a new treaty was signed and the annual payment for a British subsidiary force was fixed at eight lakhs of British rupees. Since then the history of the State has been one of steady development and well-ordered progress under a succession of able and enlightened rulers.

6. The official year in Travancore is reckoned according to the Malabar Era or the Kollam Era said to date from the rebuilding of Kollam or Quilon 1,103 years

*The Calendar.* ago. The year begins about the middle of August. The months are named after the zodiacal signs. The longest month has 32 days and the shortest 29 days. There is no leap-year as in the Gregorian Calendar,

7. Travancore has its own coinage consisting of the silver fanam (2·3 annas); the bronze chuckram *The Currency.* (6·74 pies); and the cash (·42 pies). It mints also its own half-rupee (14 chuckrams) and quarter-rupee (7 chuckrams). The British Indian rupee is also in free circulation.

8. The State has its own postal service, known as the Anchal, and issues its own stamps. Its *The Anchal.* Anchal Offices also transact Savings Bank business and issues *Hundis* or money orders.

#### The Ruling Family.

9. His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa, Vanchi Pala, Rama Varma, Kulasekhara Kiritapathi, Manney Sultan, Maharaja Raja Ramaraja Bahadur, Shamsheer Jang, Maharaja of Travancore, was born on the 7th November 1912 and his succession to the Musnad was recognised by the British Government on the 1st September 1924. His Highness is entitled to a salute of 19 guns. Owing to the minority of His Highness the Maharaja, Her Highness Sri Padmanabha Sevini, Vanchi Dharma Vardhini, Raja Rajeswari, Maharani Setu Lakshmi Bai, Maharaja, Attingal Mootha Tampuran, (born 19th November 1895) was proclaimed by the British Government "Regent to rule the Travancore State and control the administration thereof until His Highness the Maharaja shall have completed his eighteenth year and has been formally invested with ruling powers." Her Highness assumed ruling powers on the 1st September 1924. The Marumakkathayam law governs the succession which, further, is confined to the offspring of the Attingal Ranis. Her Highness the Maharani Regent and the Junior Maharani of Travancore (born 8th November 1896) were adopted into the family on the 31st August 1900. His Highness the Maharaja is the eldest son of the Junior Maharani. A daughter was born to the Junior Maharani on the 17th September 1916 and a second son on the 22nd March 1922. A daughter was born to Her Highness the Maharani Regent on the 30th December 1923 and a second daughter was born to Her Highness on the 23rd October 1926.

10. Mr. D. W. Dodwell of the Indian Civil Service continued to be tutor to His Highness the Maharaja. The same English and general subjects were taught as in the previous year. Special attention was given to history, citizenship and general knowledge. His Highness has made satisfactory progress in all these subjects. Mr. A. Krishna Pisharodi was appointed during the year as Pandit in charge of His Highness's studies in Malayalam and Sanskrit. His Highness learned a canto and a half of Raghuvamsa, began the elements of Nyayasastra and read some standard works in Malayalam. His Highness's interest in riding and in tennis and badminton continued unabated.

11. On the 22nd day of Makaram 1102 (4th February 1927) and on the four succeeding days, the Tirumadampu ceremony of His Highness the Maharaja was celebrated in Trivandrum according to immemorial custom. The ceremony consists of *Upanayana* (initiation), *Vedarambha* (commencement of Vedic study), *Kesanta* (hair cutting) and *Snana* (bath). These four *Samskaras* (rites) which may be collectively termed the *Upanayanam cum Samavartanam* ceremony, are known as the Tirumadampu ceremony in the Kshatriya households of Kerala. *Upanayana* is spiritual regeneration by the investiture of the sacred thread by the preceptor and *Samavartana* is the return of the pupil to his house after his study is completed. The study includes also the use of weapons of offence and defence. It is only after performing *Samavartana* that the male members of the Ruling family are entitled to *Padiettam*, that is, to ascend the *Srimukhamandapam* in front of and attached to, the *Sanctum Sanctorum* of the Sri Padmanabha Swami temple, independently of an elder member of the family. Tirumadampu is thus a ceremony of profound significance to His Highness the Maharaja in that it is only the performance thereof that entitles him to the recitation of the Vedic prayer, to the worship of Sri Padmanabha in his own right, and to live in his own Palace. The *Padiettam* ceremony took place on the 12th Kumbham 1102/24th February 1927 and it marked

the termination of the round of festivities connected with the Tirumadampu ceremony which followed the last recorded precedent of 1003 M. E. (1827 A. D.), viz., the Tirumadampu of the then Minor Maharaja of Travancore His Highness Swati Thirunal. The total expenditure during the year on account of the ceremony was Rs. 1,02,052.

#### **The British Representative.**

12. In the year 1800 the first British Resident accredited to the Court of Travancore, took up his residence in the State. British Residents continued until the 1st October 1923 when, Travancore having been taken into direct relations with the Government of India, the British Resident's style and title was altered to Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States. His headquarters are at Trivandrum. Mr. C. W. E. Cotton, C. I. E., was Agent to the Governor-General throughout 1102 M. E.

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## CHAPTER II.

### SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

The Ruler of Travancore is the source of all authority, judicial, administrative or legislative. For more than half a century the Rulers have treated the revenues of the State as public funds in the strictest sense of the term, appropriating to their own use a very modest civil list which is exhibited in the annual budget of the State. The proportion of the civil list in comparison with the total revenues has been steadily declining. The percentage was 8.76 in 1062, 6.86 in 1072, 6.57 in 1082, 4.04 in 1092 and only 3.83 in 1102 M. E.

2. The Government of the country is conducted in the name and under the control of Her Highness the Maharani Regent. The Dewan is the Chief Executive Officer. Her Highness's Minister. He is appointed by a Neet or Commission under Sign Manual. The Dewan is assisted by an organised Secretariat closely resembling that of the Government of India and a public service constituted more or less on the British Indian model.

3. The entire administration is carried on through several well organised departments. The activities of these departments and their constitution are separately and briefly described in the following chapters.

*Administration.* Every administrative head has to address his proposals to the Government and these recommendations are carefully considered in the Secretariat and, where necessary, are scrutinised by the Account and Audit Office. The decisions of Government, which in olden times were issued under the signature of the head of the administration in the form of *chattavariolas* (palm leaves) and later on in vernacular communications on paper, have for some time past been issued in English by the

Chief Secretary to Government in the form of orders, proceedings or letters. The commands of the Ruler are always issued in the form of Proclamations or Neets under Sign Manual. Except for purposes of legislation and the conduct of important ceremonies of State, the Ruler rarely issues such direct commands in matters affecting the public administration. All notifications, proceedings and other matter to be made known generally are published in the Government Gazette which is issued weekly in English and in the Vernacular. The Gazette is now in its sixty-fifth year. The history of Travancore for nearly a century without interruption reveals the fact that the administration, early and steadily adapting itself to modern forms of Government without entirely losing its Hindu characteristics and ideals, has been conducted with a view to the maintenance of law and order and the progressive well-being of the country. A Code of Regulations for Travancore was first promulgated in 1835. Of these, Regulations I to VII of 1010 M. E. provide for the working, powers and jurisdiction of law courts. Parts of I and IV survive on the statute book. Both relate to interest awardable in decrees. As the years went by, Travancore has become an increasingly active "Legislation State".

4. The revenue of the State is derived mainly from a system of (a) direct taxation, (b) indirect taxation, (c) commercial services, and (d) levies in connection with specific

*Taxation.* services. Taxation is covered by authority conferred by various statutory enactments ;

the tax payer's obligations are defined and known ; and collection is made on an established system. There are only two sources of revenue by direct taxation, viz., land revenue and income tax. The incidence of taxation per head of population in the case of land revenue was in the year under report 15·36 annas, working on the present estimated population of 4,400,000. Taxes falling within the second category are for the most part duties on raw products or manufactured goods exported from Travancore, such as tea, coir, fibre, yarn, other products of the cocoanut palm, pepper, salt-fish, turmeric, vegetable-oils, etc. There is also a system of import duties for the most part based on the British Indian tariff. The general stamp revenue is also

The Council is invested with powers of voting on the budget, moving resolutions and asking questions.

*Administrative Activities.* During the budget debate the "token motion" is freely resorted to for bringing under discussion and vote Government measures and policies. The power of

certification of budget demands refused or reduced by the Council and of legislative measures thrown out or altered, is reserved; but so far the Government have had no occasion for recourse to this power. All persons who are registered holders, inamdars, tenants or kudiyaṅs of land, the

*The Franchise.* annual value of which is not less than Rs. 5, persons who are assessed in a municipality to land or building tax of not less than Rs. 3 and in the town of Trivandrum of not less than Re. 1, or professional tax of any amount; persons who are assessed to income-tax, all graduates of recognised Universities who are not undergoing a course of instruction in a recognised institution, and all discharged, retired or pensioned officers of the Nayar Brigade, or His Majesty's Army or Navy, residing in Travancore, are eligible for the exercise of the franchise in the general constituencies, provided that they are not of unsound mind as judged by a competent court of law and are not under twenty-one years of age. Apart from his general electorate, there are special constituencies comprising the planting community, the jemmies, the proprietors of Edavakas and political pensioners and the interests of commerce and industry. Women are placed on a footing of complete equality with men in the matter

*Votes for Women.* both of the franchise and of membership. The prohibition relating to the discussion of reserved subjects or to the consideration

of measures affecting the provisions of the Legislative Council Regulation is retained in the Regulation. The introduction of certain measures into the Council likewise requires the previous sanction of the Dewan. Every legislative measure passed by the Council requires the assent of the Ruler. The provisions of the old Regulation for the framing of emergency

*Emergency Legislation.* Regulations by the Dewan and the affirmation of the Sovereign's right to legislate independently of the Council are also retained.

### The Popular Assembly.

7. ~~To~~ To afford the people an opportunity for expressing direct to the Government their wants and wishes and of representing their views regarding administrative measures adopted from time to time, His Highness the late Maharaja was pleased to command that

*Objects.* an Assembly under the designation of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly should be constituted. Another object was to enable the Government to learn at first hand how their actions affect the people and to have the benefit of the suggestions of the latter regarding public measures. The Assembly meets once every year. The first session was held in October 1904. The members were then nominated by Government from among the agricultural, trading, industrial and other classes. From the second year, the privilege of electing members to the Assembly was granted to the people. The total number of members

*Composition.* of the Assembly is 100 of whom 77 are elected and 23 nominated. Nominations are made by Government to represent any interest or community which may otherwise fail to be represented. Every person who pays on his own account an annual land revenue of not less than fifty rupees, or whose net annual income is not less than two thousand rupees, and every graduate of a recognised University of not less than ten years' standing and having his residence in the taluk, is given the privilege of election. In addition to this general constituency, the municipal councils, the planters' associations, the mercantile and trading classes, and the Jenmies are also allowed to return representatives to the Assembly. Each member is allowed to bring forward two subjects at the Assembly. The Assembly opens with an address by the Dewan. The members are then called

*Business Proceedings.* upon to make their representations on the subjects which they have notified and the Dewan replies in the name and on behalf of Government. Representations, not disposed of on the spot by the Dewan, are subsequently examined and considered. The final decisions of Government are conveyed to the members and are now embodied in a printed statement issued before the next Session.



appreciable. Next come indirect taxes, both fiscal and restraining in character, such as import duty on foreign liquor and excise on country liquor. The income derived from salt and tobacco is considerable. The commercial and quasi-commercial departments yielding revenue are the Forest, Anchal and Railways. Under class (d) is an appreciable income derived from such specific services as registration of documents, court fees and tolls.

5. The budget is framed annually and assigns most of the income of the year to the well-being of the people. Education, public health, medical relief, the protection of person and property, the administration of justice, the provision of communications and irrigation, consume the bulk of the taxes.

*Application of  
Revenue.*

#### Representative Institutions.

6. The work of legislation ordinarily rests with the Legislative Council brought into existence as long ago as 1888, the Ruler's right of direct legislation, independently of the Council, nevertheless remaining unimpaired. The Legislative Council established forty years ago was the first institution of the kind in the history of an Indian State. The first Council had a minimum of 5 members and a maximum of 8, of whom not less than 2 were non-officials. These non-officials were nominated by Government. The Council was purely a deliberative body for purposes of legislation, and had no administrative functions. But it had plenary powers of legislation subject to the Ruler's assent before a measure could pass into law. The only other restriction was that in introducing a measure affecting the public revenues of the State or by which any charge was imposed on such revenues, the member introducing it had to obtain the previous sanction of the Dewan. Every member, official and non-official, had independent powers of discussion and voting. In 1898, the Council was enlarged, the minimum number of members being 8 and the maximum 15, the proportion of non-officials being fixed

*Freedom  
of Vote.*

at two-fifths of the total number. The previous sanction of the Dewan was made necessary not only

*Limitation of Scope.* for measures affecting the public revenues but also for those affecting the religion or religious rites and usages of any class.

The Council was not allowed to entertain any measure affecting the Ruling Family or relations with the Paramount Power. The non-official members were at first nominated and latterly four of them were appointed on the recommendation of the members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly for each of the four revenue divisions of the State. With the enlargement of the Council and the consequent increase in the number of non-official members, the official votes coalesced. The second council was again remodelled in 1919 by

*Vote Grouping.* Regulation I of 1095 M. E. The constituting measure was promulgated directly by the late Maharaja. Provision was made for granting the people the right of electing members to the Council, while reserving to the Government the right of nominating some of the non-official members. The franchise was fairly broad-based. A limited right to interpellate Government and to discuss the annual budget was also conceded. The Council

*Administrative Contact.* retained the old powers of legislation except that it was expressly prohibited from considering and enacting any measure affecting the provisions of the Regulation itself, that is to say, it could not alter its own constitution. The prerogative of the Ruler to make and pass Regulations independent of the Council was also expressly affirmed. The Council was again

*Ruler's Prerogative.* enlarged by Regulation II of 1097, promulgated by the Ruler direct. This was passed on the 2nd October 1921 and is still in force. Under the new constitution, the Council is composed of 50 members, of whom 28 are elected and 22 nominated, only 15 out of the latter being officials. The Dewan is the President

*Elected Majority.* of the Council, but a Deputy President, who need not necessarily be an official, is also appointed to preside at the meetings of the Council in the absence of the President.

The Council is invested with powers of voting on the budget, moving resolutions and asking questions.

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#### *Business Proceedings.*

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# CHAPTER III.

## FINANCE.

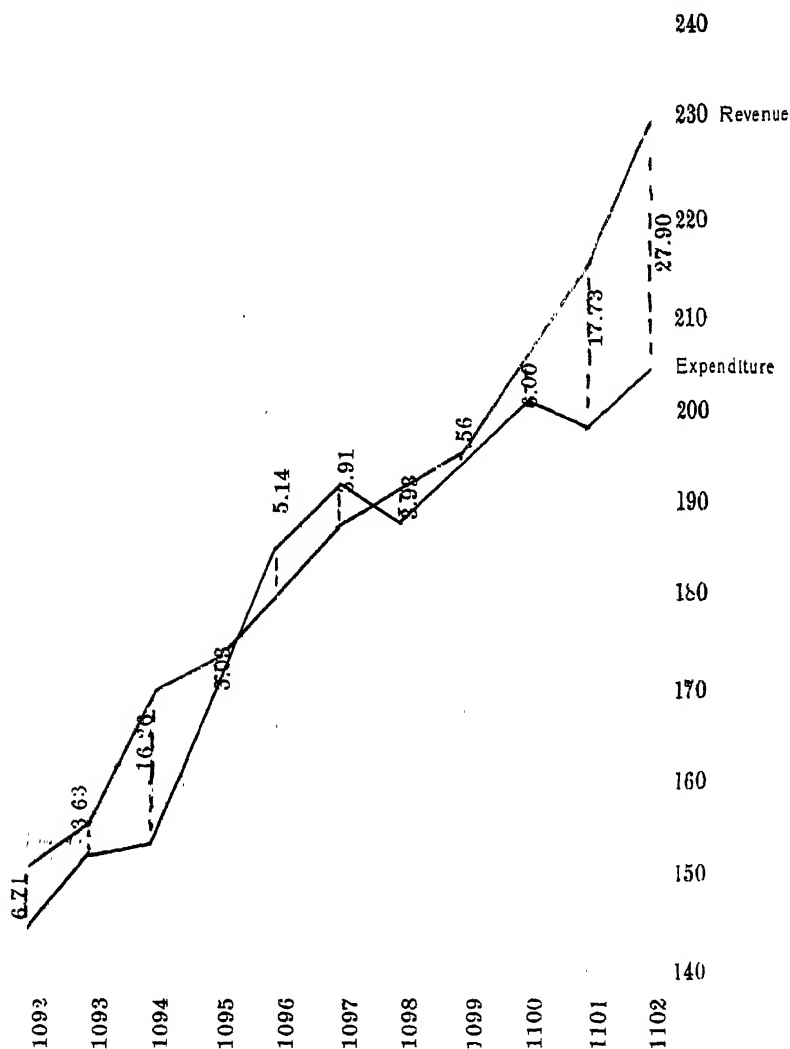
The following statement compares the revenue and expenditure of the year with those of the previous year :—

(Figures are given in lakhs of rupees.)

Revenue.				Expenditure.			
Heads of Account.	1101.	1102.	Increase + Decrease	Heads of Account.	1101.	1102.	Increase + Decrease
	Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.	
Land Revenue	12.08	12.25	+ .16	Land Revenue and Taxes on Income	10.30	10.46	+ .07
Taxes on Income	5.11	5.39	+ .28	Salt, Excise, and Customs..	5.28	5.83	+ .55
Salt	16.31	16.89	+ .58	Forests	7.60	7.92	+ .06
Excise	18.91	19.37	+ .46	Stamps	.85	.88	+ .03
Customs	28.71	30.21	+ 1.50	Registration	2.65	2.80	+ .15
Forests	11.50	15.19	+ .69	Interest on Debt and other obligations	2.83	3.14	+ .31
Stamps	26.95	26.93	- .02	Sinking Fund	1.87	1.87	—
Registration	8.35	8.78	+ .43	Palace	12.00	14.55	+ 1.55
Interest	7.50	12.85	+ 5.29	General Administration	4.31	4.14	- .17
Education	8.18	8.61	+ .43	Administration of Justice.	10.73	10.92	+ .19
Public Works (including Marumath)	3.10	3.89	+ .79	Army, Police and Jail	12.16	12.07	- .09
Productive Irrigation	—	—	—	Education	37.41	39.50	+ 2.15
Net Receipts	.26	1.15	+ .89	Agriculture and Fisheries	1.87	2.06	+ .19
Railways—Net receipts	1.66	2.10	+ .53	Industries	1.28	1.28	— .02
Amul—Net receipts	.12	.39	+ .27	Medical and Sanitary	8.48	9.74	+ 1.26
Other receipts	4.79	5.11	+ .03	Devaswoms, including contribution to the Devaswom Fund	20.39	20.12	- .27
Total receipts (Ordinary)	216.00	232.33	+ 16.33	State Charities	3.42	3.34	- .08
Receipts of a Capital nature (Sale of Government land-)	5.28	6.01	+ .73	Public Works (including Protective Irrigation, Marumath & Irrigation Capital Account)	30.25	29.72	- .53
				Subsidy & Political Expenditure	10.80	10.22	- .58
				Superannuation allowances and Pensions	7.79	8.29	+ .50
				Other expenditure	5.25	5.66	+ .41
				Total Expenditure (Ordinary)	193.87	201.63	+ 7.76
				Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue.	—	—	—
				1. Quilon—Trivandrum Railway	.33	—	- .33
				2. Other railways (Railway Surveys)	.46	.08	+ .22
				3. Cochin Harbour Works.	3.05	—	- 3.05
				4. Trivandrum Water supply	—	.01	+ .01
				Total of Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue	3.84	.69	- 3.15
Grand Total of Receipts	221.88	238.54	+ 16.66	Grand Total of Expenditure	202.71	205.32	+ 2.61

**REVENUE.**  
( EXCLUDING SALE PROCEEDS OF GOVERNMENT LANDS )  
**AND EXPENDITURE**  
( CHARGED TO REVENUE )

Lakhs of Rupees



Note:—

Collection of Revenue is included in the expenditure in this diagram



Including the receipts from the sale proceeds of Government lands, which from the year under report are credited as capital receipts instead of as ordinary revenue, but excluding the figures relating to the capital expenditure on railways etc., the revenue amounted to Rs. 238·54 lakhs or Rs. 16·66 lakhs more than that of the previous year and the expenditure to Rs. 204·63 lakhs or an increase of Rs. 5·76 lakhs. The surplus of the year amounted to Rs. 33·91 lakhs as against Rs. 23·01 lakhs realised in 1101.

2. The principal sources of revenue are from taxes on land and incomes and from Excise, Customs, Salt, Forests, Stamps and

Registration. These together amounted to

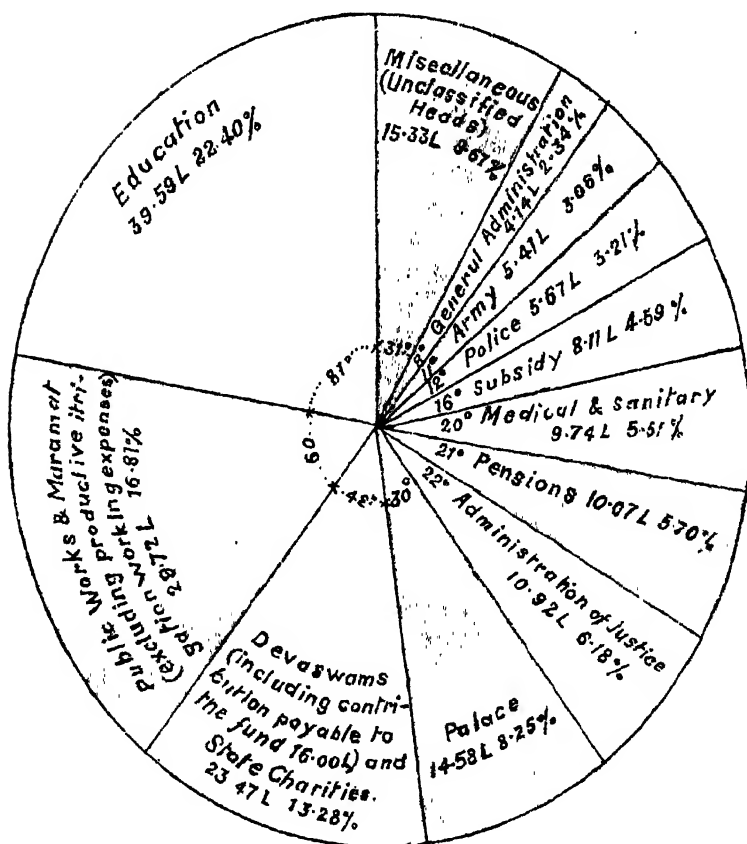
*Revenue.* 86 per cent of the total revenue of the year.

The increase of Rs. 16·66 lakhs in the revenue of the year over that of the previous year was spread over almost every head of receipt, but occurred principally under Land Revenue (Rs. ·89 lakh) including sale of Government lands, Salt (Rs. ·58 lakh), Excise (Rs. 3·46 lakhs), Customs (Rs. 1·50 lakhs), Forest (Rs. ·69 lakh), Registration (Rs. ·43 lakh), Interest (Rs. 5·29 lakhs), Public Works (Rs. ·79 lakh), Productive Irrigation, *net* (Rs. ·89 lakh), and Railways, *net* (Rs. ·53 lakh). The increase under Land Revenue including sale proceeds of Government lands amounted to Rs. ·89 lakh. The major portion of the increase amounting to Rs. ·73 lakh was contributed by the sale of lands. The increase was due to better prices realised owing to the keener demand for lands, more particularly for lands for tea and rubber cultivation. The increase under salt revenue occurred mainly under Recoveries on account of charges incurred in the sale of salt. Of the total quantity of salt brought to stock during the year 678,380 maunds were manufactured in the State in the salt factories situated in South Travancore, 322,594 maunds were imported from Tuticorin and 230,539 maunds from Bombay by contractors engaged for the purpose. The main item of receipt is the duty on salt which is levied at the same rate as in British India, *viz.*, Bh. Re. 1-4-0 per maund. But in selling the salt from the Government godowns, a small addition is made in order to cover the cost of establishment, transport, etc. The receipts on this account amounted to Rs. 2·36 lakhs, or Rs. ·59 lakh more than in the previous year. Excise revenue included license fee and duty on liquor and toddy



(Rs. 27·13 lakhs), opium and ganja (Rs. 4·85 lakhs) and tobacco (Rs. 20·39 lakhs). The income from these sources together exceeded that of 1101 by Rs. 3·46 lakhs. Of this, Rs. 2·85 lakhs was contributed by abkari and opium, the balance being due to increased receipts under duty on tobacco. The former was due to the larger consumption of country liquor combined with an increase in the duty on jaggery arrack and in the rates of tree tax, while the increase under tobacco was chiefly due to the fact that the weighment of tobacco issued from the Government warehouses was by the pound avoirdupois, the weight used by merchants in their transactions, instead of by the Dutch pound. The bulk of the Customs revenue of the State was derived from export duties which constituted about 89 per cent of the total customs receipts. The import duty realised during the year showed only a slight increase over that of 1101; but there was a substantial improvement of Rs. 2·01 lakhs under export duty including duty on tea. The revenue from Forests amounted to Rs. 15·19 lakhs against Rs. 14·50 lakhs in the previous year. The increase occurred mainly under royalty trees removed from the Forests by Government agency and by contractors and was due mainly to better demand for that species of timber. There was a substantial fall in the receipts from junglewood trees. Stamp revenue remained stationary. Out of the total income of Rs. 26·93 lakhs under this head Rs. 17·06 lakhs was realised from Judicial stamps. The receipts from Registration showed an increase of Rs. 43 lakh which was due to increase in the number of documents registered mainly as a result of the partition of tarwads under the operation of the Nair, Ezhava and Vellala Regulations. Under Interest occurred an increase of Rs. 5·29 lakhs which was mainly due to taking credit in the accounts of a sum of Rs. 6·55 lakhs on account of the premium on the purchase of Government of India Securities. Public Works receipts rose from Rs. 3·10 to Rs. 3·89 lakhs. The increase occurred principally under tolls and was an index of the large increase of motor traffic in the State during the year. The increase of Rs. 89 lakh under Productive irrigation was the combined result of an increase in the amount of water cess on the Kodayar water collected by the Land Revenue Department and of a decrease in the working expenses on the Kodayar Project. The net receipts from the Shencotta-Trivandrum railway increased from Rs. 1·66 lakhs in 1101 to Rs. 2·19 lakhs in 1102.

**PROPORTION OF EXPENDITURE OF THE GOVT.**  
*for 1102 under various Heads to the total Expenditure*  
*(Charged to Revenue*  
*Excluding Collection Charges*  
*(Direct Demands on Revenue,)*





3. Expenditure charged to Revenue rose from Rs. 198·87 lakhs to Rs. 204·63 lakhs. About 34 per cent of the total expenditure was spent on Education (Rs. 39·59 lakhs) and Public Works (Rs. 29·72 lakhs). The increase of Rs. 5·76 lakhs

over the expenditure of the previous year was distributed over most of the major heads of account, the notable increases being under Education (Rs. 2·15 lakhs), Medical and Sanitary (Rs. 1·26 lakhs), the Group Head Palace (Rs. 1·59 lakhs) and Pensions (Rs. ·50 lakh.) Small decreases appeared under a few heads of which those under Protective Irrigation (Rs. ·55 lakh) and Miscellaneous Political Expenditure (Rs. ·35 lakh) alone deserve to be mentioned. The increase under Education was mainly due to larger payments of grants-in-aid to schools and colleges. Substantial increases occurred also under English and Vernacular school education. The increase under Palace was partly due to the expenditure in connection with the Tirumadampu ceremony of His Highness the Maharaja and partly to the tour of His Highness the Maharaja to Ootacamund during the year. The opening of new dispensaries, larger provision of medicines and surgical instruments for the hospitals and the equipment of the bacteriological laboratory chiefly accounted for the increase under Medical and Sanitary. The increase of about half a lakh under superannuation allowances and pensions was due to the growth of the pension list. The decrease under Protective irrigation amounting to Rs. ·55 lakh was the result of a reduced outlay on Minor Irrigation Works—Original, due to the fact that the rule that works should not be carried out in advance of sanction to estimates was strictly enforced during the year. Under Miscellaneous Political Expenditure, there was less expenditure on the reception and entertainment of State Guests. Under Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue, the year's expenditure was only Rs. ·69 lakh against Rs. 3·84 lakhs in 1101. There was reduced expenditure to the extent of about Rs. ·33 lakh on account of the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway and an increase of about Rs. ·22 lakh under Railway Surveys. An expenditure of Rs. 3·05 lakhs was debited in the accounts of 1101 on

account of the State's contribution towards the Cochin Harbour Works. Being a non-recurring payment, a similar charge does not appear in the accounts of the year.

The following statement gives the Assets and Liabilities on the books of the Government at the close of 1102:—

Liabilities.		Assets.	
	Rs.		Rs.
i. Devaswom Fund ..	2·86	i. Cash Balance	
ii. Savings Bank Deposits ..	60·08	(a) in Treasuries ..	37·56
iii. Deposits of Service and other Funds ..	3·85	(b) with the Imperial Bank of India on current Account ..	8·74
iv. Deposits of Sinking Funds ..	48·76	ii. Investments of Surplus.	
v. Departmental and other Deposits ..	22·73	(a) in short-term Fixed Deposits with Banks. ..	10·18
vi. Accounts with Foreign States ..	·66	(b) in Government of India Paper (at face value) ..	165·33
vii. Suspense Account, Creditor balances ..	·29	iii. Special deposits and shares in industrial concerns, bearing interest..	3·43
viii. Loans from the Public—5 per cent. Debenture Loan of 1091 ..	14·75	iv. Deposits, not bearing interest, with the Imperial Bank of India ..	2·54
ix. Remittances ..	6·72	v. Do. with the State-Aided Bank of Travancore ..	1·44
Government Account Closing Balance ..	136·59	vi. Sinking Fund Investments (in Government of India Securities at face value) ..	48·70
		vii. Bullion Account ..	·12
		viii. Advances (under all items) ..	2·90
		ix. Coinage Account (Mint Advance—under Mintage) ..	..
		x. Departmental Balances (Anchal Department mainly) ..	·62
		xi. Suspense Accounts (Debtor balances) ..	1·21
		xii. Stock ..	6·90
		xiii. Loans advanced by Government ..	7·62
Total ..	297·29	Total ..	297·29

4. Capital outlays incurred by the State are charged to 'Balance' on Government (surplus) Account and the assets represented by such expenditure do not

*Capital Outlay.* accordingly find a place in the above statement. Nor is the capital found by the Secretary of State for India for the Shencotta-Quilon Railway included as liabilities. The capital expenditure on the whole of the railway line from Shencotta to Trivandrum up to 31st March 1927 stood at Rs. 194.57 lakhs of which Rs. 140.16 lakhs (being the capital amount spent on the line up to Quilon) was found by the Secretary of State for India. Irrigation Capital Expenditure (on the Kodayar Irrigation system) amounting to Rs. 78.79 lakhs is also not included.

5. The assets of the State increased from Rs. 252.60 lakhs to Rs. 297.29 lakhs i. e. by Rs. 44.69 lakhs; the liabilities from Rs. 149.23 lakhs to Rs. 160.70

*Closing Balance.* lakhs or by Rs. 11.47 lakhs. In the result, the closing balance under Government account rose from Rs. 103.37 lakhs to Rs. 136.59 lakhs. The

principal increases under Liabilities were Savings Bank Deposits (Rs. 6.08 lakhs) and Sinking Fund (Rs. 4.23 lakhs). The former was due to larger investments from the public in the

*Savings Bank Deposits.* Government Savings Banks which is an indication of the growing popularity of the institution. The Sinking Fund Liability represents the accumulated balance remaining

to the credit of the funds established for the discharge of the Government Debenture Loan of 1091 and the obligations to the

*Sinking Funds.* Secretary of State for India in respect of the capital expenditure on the Shencotta-

Quilon Railway. An annual contribution of Rs. 36,600 is made to the former and of Rs. 1,50,000 to the latter. Practically the whole amount standing to the credit of the Funds is invested in Government of India Securities and the interest realised is also carried to the credit of the Funds. The uninvested portion of the Funds, if any, is paid interest from General Revenues at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent per annum in the case of the

former and at 5 per cent per annum in the case of the latter. From the statement of assets, it will be seen that the cash balance has fallen slightly, *viz.*, from Rs. 47·44 lakhs to Rs. 46·30 lakhs; but against this the investments of

<i>Investments,</i>	surplus in banks and in Government of India
<i>Deposits and</i>	paper have risen from Rs. 136·93 lakhs to
<i>Loans.</i>	Rs. 175·51 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 1·44 lakhs was deposited with the State-Aided

Bank of Travancore free of interest in accordance with the agreement with that Bank. A free deposit of Rs. 2·54 lakhs is placed in the Imperial Bank of India under a long-standing arrangement with it in return for which the Bank conducts the financial transactions of the State in Trivandrum and elsewhere. The details of the special deposits and shares in industrial concerns are—Shares in Mundakayam Aerial Ropeway Company (Rs. 45,800) ; Shares in the Travancore Sugars (Rs. 1,52,700) and deposits in the State-Aided Bank (Rs. 1,44,400). The loan account, including advances made to Government officers on interest for the purchase of motor cars, opened with a balance of Rs. 7·91 lakhs and closed with a balance of Rs. 7·62 lakhs advances amounted to Rs. 1·34 lakhs and recoveries to Rs. 1·62 lakhs. Agriculturists received advances to the extent of Rs. 96,902 as against Rs. 63,425 in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 13,508 was disbursed in the shape of industrial loans. The amount to be recovered from the Travancore Central Co-operative Bank out of the advance made to it in 1100 for distribution in the areas affected by the floods of 1099 is Rs. 1,68,000.

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## CHAPTER IV.

### MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE.

#### Land Revenue.

<i>Land Revenue Commissioner.</i>	<i>Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.</i> <i>Mr. R. Krishna Pillai, B. A.,</i> <i>B. L., (Acting</i> <i>from 14-7-1102).</i>
<i>Dewan Peishkar, Trivandrum.</i>	<i>Mr. S. Paramesvara Aiyar,</i> <i>M. A., B. L.</i>
<i>Dewan Peishkar, Quilon.</i>	<i>Mr. C. K. Mathan, B. A.,</i> <i>B. L.</i>
<i>Dewan Peishkar, Kottayam.</i>	<i>Mr. R. Krishna Pillai, B. A.,</i> <i>B. L.</i> <i>Mr. S. K. Mahadeva Aiyar,</i> <i>B. A., B. L., (Acting).</i>
<i>Commissioner, Devicolum.</i>	<i>Mr. T. H. Cameron.</i>
<i>Superintendent, Revenue</i> <i>Survey.</i>	<i>Mr. R. Venkatarama</i> <i>Dikshitar, B. A., B. L.,</i> <i>B. E., M. E.</i>

1. The lands in this State, generally speaking, fall into two distinct classes, one being *pandaravaka* (literally, belonging to the Sirkar) and the other *jenmom* (belonging to a jenmi or landlord). In both cases *Basis of Land Rights.* the rights of ryots are fixed and secure\* and are governed by statutes and custom the ryot deriving his title from a jenmi or the Sirkar. This circum-

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\* In respect of *pandaravaka* lands :—

“ We are pleased to notify to Our Ryots :—

“ 2ndly. That the ryots holding these lands may regard them fully as private, heritable, saleable and otherwise transferable property.....”

*Proclamation of 21st Eelazom 1040 M. E./2nd June 1865—*  
*Emfranchisement of Sirkar Pattom lands.*



stance along with the consequential fact that the theoretical owner, *viz.*, the Sirkar or the jenmi, might have demised the lands under, or subject to, a variety of terms has coloured the whole land revenue system and serves to explain the various land tenures long recognised in the State.

2. In the case of *pandaravaḥa* lands, held directly from the Sirkar, the tax due to the Sirkar is really *pattom* (rent) and it represents the share of the produce of the land which the Sirkar is entitled to. Jenmom lands are either entirely tax-free or are subject to payment of rajabhogam (king's due). In the former category are the devaswom and brahmaswom *thanathu* lands which remain unalienated in the hands of the original devaswoms and brahmaswoms; but once they are alienated for a money consideration they are liable to pay the rajabhogam. The rajabhogam is a light tax varying from 1/8th to 1/4th of the standard assessment. The pandara-pattom lands are also subject to various rates of assessment varying from full assessment to absolute exemption from assessment. This peculiarity is due to various historical, political and other causes.

3. The earliest revenue settlement of the lands in the State of which any records are available is of the year 914 M. E./1738 A. D. when Travancore lay within its own ancient limits. There have been subsequent settlements, in 926 M. E./1750 A. D., 948 M. E./1772 A. D., 978 M. E./1802 A. D., 993 M. E./1817 A. D. and 1012 M. E./1836 A. D. The last settlement commenced in 1883 and was completed in 1911. The tax fixed at this settlement has been declared permanent for a period of thirty years. The results of this settlement are exhibited in printed registers which give particulars of the extent, the tenure, the full *pattom*, the net *pattom*,<sup>\*</sup> etc., for each holding. Every parcel of land which came under settlement bears a separate survey number.

4. At the last settlement, further, a serious attempt was made to systematise and simplify the tenures without generally increasing the incidence of taxation. Various

*Classification of Tenures.* tenure names are, however, still retained in the Ayacut or Settlement Register. But these tenures fall into certain distinct and well-understood groups, whether grouped according to (1) the theoretical proprietorship of the lands, or (2) the nature or the conditions of the holding both of which principles determine the incidence of taxation.

5. The assessment of wet lands is fixed on a yield basis, in paddy, determined by the seed or sowing capacity of the land and ranges from two-fifths to seven times

*Method of Assessment.* the measure of the seed sown in the case of single-crop lands and from three-fifths to ten-and-a-half fold for double-crop lands. The assessment of other lands, commonly called "garden land", is fixed either on an acreage basis or on the trees grown, both not operating simultaneously. For example, if a holding of an acre has twenty cocoanut palms and ten jack trees, each is supposed to take up a certain number of cents of land "standing room" and a specific rate of tree-tax is levied for each tree. The balance of the acre not thus taken up is assessed on the acreage basis, be it cultivated with, say, tapioca or banana or be it uncultivated. There are fourteen *tharams* or rates of acreage assessment.

6. Tax used to be collected in money as well as in kind, such as paddy, cocoanuts, etc. At the last settlement all taxation in kind, except paddy in respect of paddy lands,

*Form of Tax-payment.* was abolished and money payments substituted. Even this paddy tax was commuted into money in respect of *pandaravaka* lands in 1081 M. E. 1907 A. D. and in the year under report this change was made also in respect of Kandukrishi or Crown lands and the Sripadom lands of the Senior Maharani's Attingal and Edacode Adhikarams.

7. For purposes of land revenue administration, the State is divided into four divisions under the general control of the Land Revenue Commissioner. Each division is composed of taluks under the charge of *Land Revenue Administration*. Tahsildars and each taluk is sub-divided into pakuthies which constitute the unit of land revenue administration. The head of a pakuthi is called a Proverthicar. There are now 30 taluks and 432 pakuthies.

8. The area under cultivation has been extending during the year. There are two sets of rules to regulate the assignment of Government lands for cultivation :—

(1) the Puduval Rules for the older and more general forms of agriculture devoted to the raising of grain, vegetables, fruits, spices, etc., and

(2) the Special Rules for the assignment of lands for the growing of cardamom, coffee, tea and rubber.

The areas assigned for cultivation during the last three years were :—

		Total new area assigned for cultivation.	Under Puduval Rules.	Under Special Rules.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1100	..	11,028	9,487	1,541
1101	..	11,202	10,243	959
1102	..	14,475	12,542	1,933

9. The total area under occupation during the year was 2,298,491 acres, or roughly 57 cents of land per head of population of 4,006,062 according to the last census. The population at the end of 1926 is roughly estimated to be 4,400,000. This would make the present holding of land about 52 cents per head. The average extent of arable land

per head of population in the State was, in 1921, approximately 74 cents. A great deal of fragmentation took place during the year as a result of the partition of family property under the Nair, Ezhava and Vellala Regulations.

10. The practice of crediting the sale proceeds of Government land as ordinary land revenue was discontinued from the beginning of the year under report. Such

*Sale Proceeds of Land.* realisations being more or less in the nature of a capital receipt are now exhibited in the

budget outside the revenue account as "Capital account receipts." The total receipts under this head amounted to Rs. 6,01,254 during the year while the amounts for 1101 and 1100 aggregated Rs. 5,28,232 and Rs. 4,27,926 respectively. The competition for land is so keen that land values have risen considerably.

11. The total demand under current revenue and arrears for the year, excluding that under sale proceeds of Government lands, was Rs. 44,71,718 against

*Demand, Collection and Balance.* Rs. 45,07,651 in 1101. The total collections amounted to Rs. 42,68,548 against Rs. 41,41,172 in the previous year. A

sum of Rs. 58,175 was allowed by way of remissions, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,44,995 for collection at the end of the year against Rs. 2,23,916 in 1101. The work of collection during the year showed appreciable improvement, the percentage having risen from 94.11 to 96.34. The percentage of collection was the highest in the Trivandrum Division.

12. The number of demand notices issued during 1102 fell from 502,107 to 466,498 and the amount involved also fell from Rs. 20,37,079 to Rs. 19,55,020. Move-

*Coercive Action.* ables were distrained and immoveables attached in 9,802 cases for Rs. 2,08,807 against 11,494 cases for Rs. 2,45,678 in

1101. Moveables were sold in 706 cases for Rs. 6,421 and immoveables were sold in 1,742 cases for Rs. 43,063. Although there was a total decrease in the volume of coercive action in

the State, the number of cases in which moveables were distrained and immoveables attached increased in the Trivandrum Division. This is said to be due to the greater promptitude with which coercive action was taken for the recovery of kist.

13. The total number of revenue cases of all description for disposal was 152,099 against 145,136 in 1101. Of these, 135,120 cases were disposed of against *Revenue Cases*. 123,125, leaving a balance of 16,979 cases against 22,011 cases in the previous year. The percentage of disposal of these cases thus increased from 85 to 89. Transfer of registry cases constituted the largest number of revenue cases, being 72 per cent of the total. This was followed by puduval and poramboke cases which formed 14 and 12 per cent respectively. The percentage of disposal of all these cases was satisfactory.

14. In the disposal of puduval cases, 2,453 acres were assigned by auction sale and 9,104 acres were registered without auction and upon application. The *Disposal of Puduvall Lands*. total area thus assigned was 11,557 acres and the recurring and non-recurring revenue secured thereby were Rs. 16,881 and Rs. 5,06,245 respectively. The corresponding figures for 1101 were 11,334 acres and Rs. 17,675 and Rs. 4,57,601 respectively. In the Neduvankad taluk where a special staff was working during the year for the disposal of puduval applications an extent of 3,268 acres was brought under registry. The cost of the special staff was Rs. 3,744, while the revenue secured was Rs. 89,336 of which Rs. 3,848 was recurring and Rs. 85,488 non-recurring.

15. In addition to the disposal of land under the Puduvall Rules, lands were also brought under registry in accordance with the provisions of the Waste Land and *Disposal of Waste Lands*. Cardamom Land Rules. The total area assigned under these Rules was 3,806 acres.

16. There were for disposal during the year 1,521 applications for the registry of lands from the depressed classes. Of these, 1,250 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 271 cases. The corresponding figures for 1101 were 1,120, 970 and 150 respectively. The percentage of disposal was 82 against 86 in the previous year.

*Lands for Landless Classes.* The total area assigned to members of the depressed classes during the year was 511 acres against 523 acres. The total area earmarked for assignment to the depressed classes in all the divisions together was 15,892 acres out of which an extent of 1,714 acres was assigned up to the end of the year. In addition to this, 1,797 acres in all have also been assigned to them from outside the earmarked area under concessional terms. The total area so far thus assigned to the depressed classes was 3,511 acres of which 2,250 acres or 64 per cent were in the names of the Pulayas who, for the most part, are the actual tillers of the soil.

17. The concessions granted to ex-service men in regard to the assignment of lands remain in force till 21st November 1928.

*Lands for Ex-service Men.* An extent of 4,320 acres is reserved for registry in their names. The area registered in their favour was only 19 acres against 4 acres in the previous year. The number of applications from these men for disposal was 203 of which 132 were rejected and 4 sanctioned. The reason for the rejection of so large a number of applications was partly the inaccuracies in location in the applications for lands some of which were not available for assignment, and partly the failure of the applicants to pay tharavila or price. The question of the inadequacy of disposal of the lands reserved for ex-service men notwithstanding the continuance of the concessions for more than seven years, engaged the attention of Government during the year and as a result of their investigations it was found that the unsatisfactory position was due in the main to defects in the rules regulating the assignment of these lands. Since the close of the year under report, the rules were revised and re-issued. A further concession that the registry of lands in favour of

ex-soldiers should be made free of tharavila or price, has been incorporated in the new rules. It is expected that with this fresh concession the disposal of these lands will be accelerated.

18. In the course of discussion in the Legislative Council on the 6th August 1925, the need for revision of the Puduval Rules was prominently brought to notice as they worked hardship on rural land-owners and were unsuited to the conditions of the country. In pursuance of this discussion, a committee was appointed by Government consisting of officials as well as non-officials elected by the Legislative Council to examine the Puduval Rules and submit proposals for necessary changes. The report of the committee has been received and is engaging the attention of Government.

19. There were for disposal 454 applications for agricultural loans during the year. Of these, 192 were rejected and 209 sanctioned. A sum of Rs. 97,289 was disbursed during the year in all the divisions together mainly for the improvement of land for agricultural purposes.

20. The total number of public markets throughout the State at the end of the year was 158 against 154 in the previous year. Of these, 138 alone were leased out during the year, as the majority of the remaining markets were evening markets and two were intended mainly for the benefit of Kanikars (hillmen). The revenue realised from the lease of these markets aggregated Rs. 73,116 against Rs. 72,031 in 1101 and the expenditure incurred on account of maintenance, sanitation and new construction amounted to Rs. 11,038 against Rs. 9,258, or 15 per cent of the income from markets against 13 per cent in the previous year. The number of private markets at the close of the year was 314 against 308, the amount of license fees recovered therefrom being Rs. 4,490 against Rs. 5,590 in 1101.

21. The total area of dry lands situated within the area commanded by the Kodayar irrigation system, which was fit for wet cultivation, was 26,341 acres. Out of

*Conversion in the Kodayar Area.* this an extent of 251 acres was converted during the year, thus making the total area of such conversions at the end of the year 18,977 acres. The area available for conversion was 7,364 acres, composed of 7,347 acres of registered dry lands, 14 acres of tank-beds and 3 acres of other poramboke. The extent of conversions during the year showed a decrease of 472 acres over that of the previous year. This decrease is attributed to the circumstance that the bulk of the area remaining unconverted is either situated at the tail end of the Kodayar channel or on elevations not easily irrigable.

22. Besides the central board, there were 21 block boards in the Tovala taluk, 45 in Agasteeswaram and 42 in Kalkulam.

*Irrigation Boards.* Very few of the boards either functioned satisfactorily or were popular. The revision of the rules regarding the constitution and working of these boards engaged the attention of the central board.

23. The land colonisation scheme sanctioned by Government in 1100 has not yet come into operation. The constitution of the committees appointed in the different taluks for selecting lands suitable for the purpose, having been found unworkable, steps were taken for its revision. The committees have not begun to function.

*Land Colonisation.*

24. On the recommendation of the committee appointed to inspect and report on the swampy areas fit for paddy cultivation in the Kunnathur taluk, an extent of 50 acres of swamps comprised in 6 blocks was disafforested and thrown open for registry.

25. Kandukrishi lands are Crown lands which, although included in the State Ayacut, are the private property of the Sovereign. Holders of such lands are only tenants-at-will with no permanent right of occupancy. Until the year under report, the rent due on Kandukrishi wetlands was paid in kind. The rent is recovered in the same

*Kandukrishi Lands.*



manner as revenue from Government lands under a special provision made for the purpose in the Revenue Recovery Regulation. In 1906, the system of levying land-tax in kind was wholly abolished in respect of all Government lands and a money-payment was substituted. But in view of practical difficulties and of the need for further consideration, Kandukrishi lands were not included in the application of the new scheme. Since then the need for the commutation into money-payments of the *pattom* or rent paid in kind on wet lands held under the Kandukrishi *pattom* tenure was pressed on the attention of Government at successive sessions of the Popular Assembly and the Legislative Council. After careful consideration, Government resolved to abolish the system of payments in kind in respect of Kandukrishi *pattom* lands and to substitute a money payment. The rate of commutation was fixed at 24 chuckrams (13-As. 5.68 Ps.) per para of paddy tentatively for a period of six years. The Kandukrishi tenants were also discharged from the Oozhium or service of supplying *Vari* and *Gnavara* paddy to the Palace and also *Dharmapullu* for the feeding of cattle in Ambalapuzha. The change does not apply to Kandukrishi *tanatu* lands and does not in any way affect the tenure of Kandukrishi *pattom* lands as Crown lands.

26. The work of maintenance of land records was continued in all the divisions except Devicolam by the Revenue Supervisors under the control of

*Maintenance of* the Dewan Peishkars and the Tahsildars.  
*Land Records.* In the taluks of Peermade and Devicolam

the work was done by the normal pakuthi staff under the supervision of the Tahsildars. Revised Land Records Maintenance Rules were issued in the middle of the year. The work completed during the year consisted of the survey of 1,223 acres of poramboke, 4,810 acres of puduval sub-divisions and 4,657 acres of pokuvaravu sub-divisions, besides the detection of 8,295 cases of encroachment, the renewal of 32,860 stones, the repair of 8,504 stones and the refixing of 1,015 theodolite stations.

27. All Tahsildars have been trained in survey. All Proverthicans and accountants except one, have also completed their training in survey. The three *Survey Training of Revenue Officers.* Revenue Inspectors in the Devicolam Division have undergone training in chain-survey during the year, and they have yet to be trained in theodolite survey.

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#### Survey.

28. The Survey Department attended to the following items of work during the year :—

- Work of the Department.*
- (i) Special and miscellaneous cadastral surveys ;
  - (ii) Lithography of village and other maps ;
  - (iii) Puduval survey operations ;
  - (iv) The training of private candidates and Government servants ; and
  - (v) The checking of village sites.

29. The most important items of work done under this head are :—

- Cadastral Surveys.*
- (i) Demarcation and survey of lands for tea and rubber cultivation, cardamom lands and puduval lands, comprising in all 14,395 acres ;
  - (ii) Refixing the boundaries of certain reserved forests to the extent of 38 square miles ;
  - (iii) Survey of the boundaries of reserved forests to a length of 39 miles ;
  - (iv) Computation and mapping of the area surveyed ; and
  - (v) Survey and verification of certain parts of the State Boundary.

30. The work of incorporating the corrections in accordance with the decisions in land-complaints and closing up the records of 9 minor circuits, was attended to by the *Puduvai Survey*. permanent hands of the department, both in the office and in the field, as the temporary staff for the purpose was abolished in the previous year. Of the 9 minor circuits, the records of 7 minor circuits, covering an area of 7,274 acres were closed and sent to the Tahsildar and the records of the remaining two numbers were nearly completed.

31. The number of candidates trained in both the Central and Kottayam Survey Schools together was 179 against 180 in 1101, of whom 118 passed the final examination. *Survey Schools.* Government servants 24 in number were also trained during the year. The receipts on account of fees from these two schools amounted to Rs. 2,052 against Rs. 2,440 in the previous year.

32. The total area for which records had to be checked and closed was 1,387 acres of which 170 acres relating to the Nagercoil pakuthi were alone completed *Survey of Village Sites.* during the year. Excluding the work done during 1101, the area which still remains to be attended to is 1,087 acres. The question of expediting this work by the appointment of a special staff is engaging the attention of Government.

33. The total receipts and expenditure of the Land Revenue Department during the past three years are *Finance.* shown in the following statement :—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	43,26,930	47,36,792	48,26,325
Expenditure	10,75,786	10,19,203	10,26,135
(After deducting share debitable to Taxes on Income and Administration of Justice).			

In the above statement, for purposes of mere comparison between the total receipts of the department and the total expenditure incurred by the department mainly for purposes of the work of revenue collection, the amount on account of the sale proceeds of Government land has been included under receipts. The receipts of the department have been steadily increasing during the past three years, the increase in 1102 being Rs. 89,533 more than that during the previous year. The expenditure too increased by Rs. 6,932. The percentage of expenditure to revenue was 21 as in the previous year.

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#### Income-Tax.

<i>Income Tax Commissioner</i>	<i>Mr. S. C. H. Robinson.</i>
<i>and Chief Revenue Authority.</i>	<i>Mr. R. Krishna Pillai, B. A.,</i> <i>B. L. (Acting from</i> <i>14-7-1102).</i>

34. As in the previous year, the existing land revenue agency was utilised for income-tax work and there were 41 Collectors of Income Tax consisting of the three Dewan Administration. Peishkars, the Commissioner, Devicolam, the 7 Division Assistants and the 30 Tahsildars. The Dewan Peishkars, the Commissioner, Devicolam and the Division Assistants exercised also the powers of a Commissioner of Income Tax under the Regulation.

35. The total number of assesseees during the year fell from 2,290 to 2,282. Of these, 2,194 were individuals against 2,195 in 1101; 86 companies against 94; and 2 firms against 1. These include the assesseees who reside within the limits of the several municipalities in the State. The total number of assesseees within such limits was 1,259 or 55 per cent of the number of assesseees in the State. The total demand from the municipal towns represented 33 per cent of the total demand for the State.

36. The total demand under arrears and current fell from Rs. 8,97,185 to Rs. 7,50,273. The fall occurred in all the divisions except Kottayam. This is attributed in the Quilon Division to the sudden *Demand, Col- lection and Balance.* and abnormal fluctuations in the price of pepper and coir mats and matting in 1101; in the Devicolam Division to the unfavourable season for tea cultivation in 1101; and in the Trivandrum Division to a depression in trade in 1101. The collections also fell from Rs. 6,64,054 to Rs. 6,02,512. Excluding the remissions which were granted during the year to the extent of Rs. 1,06,365, the balance left for collection at the end of the year was only Rs. 42,212. The percentage of collection was 80 against 74 in the previous year. The average incidence of this taxation per head of population fell from 5 chuckrams and 3 cash (2 annas 10 pies) in 1101 to 4 chuckrams and 3 cash (2 annas 4 pies) during the year.

37. The number of appeals and revision petitions for disposal during the year was 413 of which 369 were disposed of leaving a balance of 44. Thirty-eight per cent of the appeals and 32 per cent of the *Appeals and Revision Petitions.* revision petitions disposed of by the Income Tax Commissioner and Chief Revenue Authority were favourable to the parties concerned.

38. The receipts and expenditure under income tax during the past three years are shown in the *Receipts and Expenditure.* following statement;—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ..	7,89,272	5,10,500	5,39,579
Expenditure ..	17,050	19,495	19,575
Net Income ..	7,72,222	4,91,005	5,20,004

The amount of collections given in paragraph 36 represents the gross collections without deducting refunds. The above receipts exclude refunds. The fall in the receipts of the previous year has already been explained in that year's report as due to the result of a High Court decision pertaining to the income from tax-free lands in the State. The receipts during the year under report, increased from Rs. 5,10,500 to Rs. 5,39,579 or by Rs. 29,079. The expenditure too increased by Rs. 80 only and was about 4 per cent of the receipts. The increase in the net receipts was Rs. 28,999.

#### Salt Revenue.

*Commissioner.*

*Mr. A. J. Van Ross.*

39. The salt factories in the State constitute one of the eleven Excise Divisions in charge of an Assistant Excise Commissioner who is under the control of the Excise Commissioner.

40. The salt consumed in the State is partly manufactured at the Government factories and partly imported from Bombay and Tinnevely. The manufacture of salt in the factories is entrusted to licensees. In the case of the old factories the licensees used to be paid the price of the salt manufactured by them at  $12\frac{1}{2}$  chuckrams (7 as.) per maund on the Kudivaram or Government share of the salt which is 40 per cent of the total quantity manufactured. The remaining 60 per cent of the salt was taken by the Government as its Melvaram (duty) without payment. But as a result of the passing of a set of new rules under the Salt Regulation, III of 1088, the system of weighment of salt before storage was enforced. To cover the extra charges involved, the Kudivila too was raised from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  chuckrams to 5 chuckrams ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  as. to  $2\frac{3}{4}$  as.) per maund in respect of the licensees of the monopoly factories at Thamarakulam,

Rajakamangalam and Colachel on the whole quantity of salt manufactured in those factories. In the new factories, the licensees are paid at rates varying from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  annas to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  annas per maund on all the salt manufactured. Per contra, the licensees themselves construct and maintain the necessary works in the new factories, whereas the Government does this in the old factories. Salt for consumption was sold by Government agencies in bankshalls, depots and factories, except in the High Range and at the Alleppey depot. On the High Range, the consumers themselves were permitted to import the salt required by them from the adjoining British districts on payment of duty at the Chowkeys. As this salt had already paid duty in British India, the salt sold in the High Range was laden with double duty and the price was naturally high. To remove this disability and to enable the consumers in the distant uplands of Devicolam to get cheap salt, a contractor was engaged to undertake the supply and sale of salt obtained free of duty from the Tuticorin factories. The contractor commenced sales from the 1st Thulam 1102 from which date the import of salt by private individuals was prohibited. In the Alleppey depot, the supply and sale of Tinnevely salt continued with the special contractor engaged for the purpose till the 18th Vrischigam 1102 when his stock of salt was exhausted and from this date the sale of salt was conducted by Government.

41. The number of factories or *alloms* for the manufacture of salt in the State is 14 and they are all situated in South Travancore. The manufacture was carried on

*Home Salt.* in 10 of these *alloms* during the year. The total extent of the pans available for manufacture in all the factories was the same as in the previous year, viz., 471.62 acres. Out of this, 115.94 acres were not worked by the lessees during 1102, owing to the insufficiency of good brine. The total quantity of salt manufactured in all the factories was 668,991 maunds against 401,626 maunds in 1101. Including excesses credited from the heaps sold out, the total out-turn during the year was 678,380 maunds, against 407,466 maunds. The average yield per acre rose from 1,283 maunds in 1101 to 1,934 maunds in 1102. The out-turn was the largest on record and it was due to the better availability of brine and the

favourable weather conditions which prevailed during the year under report. The satisfactory out-turn was obtained only from the factories at Thamarakulam and Variyur. The factories at Rajakamangalam and Colachel did not show similar results. The problem which confronted the department was the supply of a sufficient quantity of brine. Had the out-turn been equally satisfactory in all the factories, the supply of salt would have probably equalled the demand in the State. This problem is engaging the attention of the department and the Government. The quantity of home salt (*i. e.*, locally made) in stock in factories and in depots at the beginning of the year was 403,419 maunds and together with the quantity manufactured during the year, the total quantity available for consumption was 1,081,808 maunds. Out of this quantity, 404,366 maunds were sold by Government against 332,576 maunds in the previous year. The balance in hand at the end of the year, deducting the amount written off, was 671,756 maunds.

42. The quantity of foreign salt imported into the State during the year was 553,133 maunds made up of 230,539 maunds of Bombay salt and 322,594

*Foreign Salt.* maunds of Tinnevely salt. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 896,738 maunds of salt made up of 310,234 maunds of Bombay salt and 586,504 maunds of Tinnevely salt. Thus there was an appreciable decrease in the quantity of salt imported during the year under report. This was due to the better out-turn in the quantity of salt manufactured in the State. Including the quantity imported, the amount of salt in stock was 421,015 maunds of Bombay salt and 510,842 maunds of Tinnevely salt. The quantity sold during the year was 295,158 maunds of Bombay salt and 429,209 maunds of Tinnevely salt against 271,078 maunds and 528,607 maunds respectively in the previous year. The quantity which remained in stock at the end of the year excluding quantities written off the accounts, was 220,716 maunds against 388,575 maunds in 1101.



43. The total quantity of salt, home as well as foreign, consumed in the State during the year was 1,128,733 maunds against 1,132,261 maunds in 1101. The

*Salt Consumption.* small decrease of 3,528 maunds was due to poor catches of fish during the earlier part of the year and the consequent smaller demand for fish curing purposes. Thirty-six per cent of the total quantity consumed represented home salt and the balance foreign salt. The total out-turn in all the salt factories was more than three-fifths of the quantity consumed in the State during the year. The average consumption per head of population was 23·19 lbs. against 23·25 lbs. in 1101.

44. The issue price of the several kinds of salt in the salt factories, salt depots and salt bankshalls remained the same as at the close of the previous year except in

*Selling Price of Salt.* the following cases :—

(a) A small quantity of home salt in the Trivandrum depot which was reddish in colour and which was not in demand, was sold at Bh. Re. 1 as. 12 per maund ;

(b) The price of home salt in the Quilon depot was fixed at Bh. Rs. 2 anna 1 per maund from the 19th Makaram 1102.

45. The receipts and expenditure under salt during the past three years are shown in the sub-

*Receipts and Expenditure.* joined statement :—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	16,81,193	16,31,371	16,88,735
Expenditure ...	92,756	68,093	1,02,525

The receipts increased from Rs. 16,31,371 to Rs. 16,88,735 or by Rs. 57,364. The increase was due to the abolition of the system of supply and sale of Tinnevely salt by the special contractor engaged for the purpose at Alleppey and to the substitution in its place of a system of sale by Government direct. The expenditure also showed an increase to the extent of Rs. 34,432. The net revenue during the year was thus Rs. 15,86,210 or Rs. 22,932 more than that for the previous year. The incidence of salt tax came to about 6·7 annas per head of population against 6·5 annas in the previous year.

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#### Excise Revenue.

*Excise Commissioner.*

*Mr. A. J. Van Ross.*

46. The excise revenue was derived from the manufacture and sale of country liquor and from  
*Sources of Revenue.* licenses for the sale of toddy, country and foreign liquors, tobacco, opium and its derivatives and ganja.

47. The substitution of the present 'Independent Shop' system for the old farming monopoly for the manufacture and sale of toddy and arrack with the exception  
*Excise System.* of Devicolam (High Range) was completed for the whole State in 1100. Under the present system, the right to vend toddy and arrack is separated and is sold by auction shop by shop. In the case of toddy, the right of manufacture is with the shop-holder who pays a tax on every tree tapped. In the case of arrack, the right of sale alone is granted, the right of manufacture being with the Government who engage a contractor for the manufacture and supply of arrack to the arrack shopkeepers. The farming system in respect of arrack still continues in Devicolam and toddy is not available for consumption there. Government have engaged a contractor for the manufacture and vend of arrack in that taluk and reserve to themselves the right to fix the number and location of shops in the area.

48. It is not the desire of the Government to derive revenue from drink to the detriment of the wellbeing of the people of the State. The policy of the department has been to make it increasingly difficult for the consumer to obtain strong drink. The reduction in the number of shops, the raising of the liquor duties and other restrictive measures which the department has adopted are forces tending to control consumption. Every care is taken to minimise temptation for those who do not drink, and to discourage excess among those who do. The temperance movement and the movement for absolute prohibition spread the erroneous idea that the Government create and foster an unwholesome demand which would cease automatically if the State were ready to forego the excise revenue. When it is recognised that sources of illicit supply are easily accessible in the State and that liquor can be had from almost any palm tree with no more skill than is required to make an incision and with no more apparatus than a knife and a toddy-pot, it will be conceded that Government intervention only operates to regulate both the quality and the quantity of the liquor consumed, the former by the prescription of certain standards of strength and the latter by the levy of still-head fees which the consumer automatically pays.

49. The following administrative measures were carried out during the year :—

(1) The tree tax rules passed by Government in 1914 did not provide for the free substitution of trees which having been applied for on payment of tree tax failed to yield toddy when the spathes were prepared. Such a contingency often occurred and shop-keepers had to apply, on payment of fresh tax, for other trees instead. With a view to avoid the loss which this entailed on them, the shop-keepers started the preparation of spathes before formal application and payment as required by the rules. This procedure was a source of trouble to the department and resulted in a large number of prosecutions of shop-keepers. The rules were therefore suitably amended permitting substitution in the case of sago palms and of cocoanut trees which failed to yield toddy, provided applications were preferred for such substitution within the prescribed period ;

(2) The rates of tree tax were also increased;

(3) In pursuance of the excise policy of temperance pursued by Government the duty on jaggery arrack was raised from Bh. Rs. 4 to Bh. Rs. 4-8-0 per proof gallon;

(4) The issue price of ganja was raised from Bh. Rs. 26 to Bh. Rs. 27-8-0 per seer with effect from Meenam 1102;

(5) The restriction on the importation of Novocaine and preparations thereof into Travancore was removed; and

(6) Sago palm tapping was prohibited and the supply of arrack of 40° U. P. was introduced in the Pathanamthitta taluk as a preventive against illicit distillation.

50. The biennial contracts for the vend of arrack and toddy having expired by the end of the previous *Abkari Contract.* year, fresh contracts were entered into for a further period of two years from the commencement of the year under report.

51. The number of toddy and arrack shops working at the end of the previous year was 1,915. At the commencement of the year, advantage was taken of the *Country Liquor Shops.* renewal of the biennial contracts to reduce the number of shops. The number was reduced to 1,835, the percentage of reduction being 4·2. In the course of the year, three more toddy shops were also abolished. Thus the total number of shops actually working at the end of the year was 1,832 or 83 less than that for the previous year. As a result of the reduction, there was only one shop to every 12·12 square miles and to 2,187 inhabitants against 11·58 square miles and 2,092 inhabitants in 1101.

52. The supply rate of jaggery-arrack was reduced from Bh. Rs. 2-6-6 to Bh. Rs. 2-5-6 per proof gallon, while that of toddy-arrack continued the same as in the *Arrack.* previous year, *viz.*, Bh. Rs. 6-6-0. The strength of arrack issued from distilleries, ware-houses and depots also continued as 25° U. P. and

35° U. P. The total number of arrack shops, both jaggery and toddy, excluding the shops in the Devicolam taluk, was 574 against 601 in 1101, *i. e.*, one shop to every 12·12 square miles and to 6,922 inhabitants, against 11·58 square miles and 6,611 inhabitants in the previous year. There was however an increase of 2,817 proof gallons in the consumption of arrack as compared with 1101, the quantity consumed being 117,266 proof gallons of jaggery-arrack and 714 proof gallons of toddy-arrack, against 114,736 proof gallons of jaggery-arrack and 427 proof gallons of toddy-arrack in 1101. The increase was only 4 per cent. The consumption per head of population rose from 1·39 drams to 1·42 drams during the year under report. Such slight variations usually follow fluctuations in the economic conditions of the country and a rise in consumption of controlled spirit is often the result of more effective preventive measures directed against illicit distillation. The total collections under current rentals, excise duty and miscellaneous amounted to Rs. 10,09,385 against Rs. 9,08,420 in the previous year. As a result of the enhancement of the duty on arrack and of the increase in shop rentals in pursuance of the policy of Government to make it costly for the consumer to obtain his liquor, the total revenue collected per gallon of proof strength rose from Rs. 7-24-2 in 1101 to Rs. 8-9-0 and the incidence of taxation on country spirits per head of population also rose from As. 3-6 to As. 3-10 in the year under report. In the arrack rent farm of Devicolam, there were 7 shops or one shop to every 95·2 square miles and 4,699 inhabitants, with a total rental of Rs. 40,000, the incidence of rent per head of population being Bh. Re. 1-as. 3-p. 1.

53. The number of toddy shops actually working during the year was 1,260 against 1,307, or one shop to every 5·52 square miles and 3,153 inhabitants against

*Toddy.* 5·32 square miles and 3,039 inhabitants in 1101. A small measure of toddy forms

part of the regular diet of the labouring classes. The amount collected under current rentals was Rs. 11,89,338, or Rs. 1,13,111 more than that for the previous year.

54. The rates of tree tax which prevailed in the previous year were enhanced with effect from the commencement of the year under report. The rates fixed

*Tree Tax.* for the whole State except the Devicolam taluk and the pakuthies of the Kunnatnad and Parur taluks which border on Cochin territory, were as follows:—

	Old rate.			New rate.		
	Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.
Cocoanut.	6	0	0 (per annum)	6	12	0 (per annum)
Palmyra.	3	8	0 Do.	3	12	0 Do.
Sago palm or Choondapana.	10	0	0 Do.	12	0	0 Do.

The rates in force in the pakuthies of the Kunnatnad and Parur taluks were the following:—

	Old rate.			New rate.		
	Rs.	as.	ps.	Rs.	as.	ps.
Cocoanut.	4	0	0 (per annum)	5	0	0 (per annum)
Palmyra.	3	0	0 Do.	3	0	0 Do.
Sago palm or Choondapana.	7	0	0 Do.	10	0	0 Do.

These lower rates were adopted so as to bring them into line with those prevailing in the neighbouring State of Cochin and thus minimise the incentive to the smuggling of toddy from

Cochin into Travancore. Notwithstanding the enhancement of the rates of tree tax, there was no diminution in the number of trees licensed during the year. The number of trees licensed comprised 91,765 cocoanut palms, 12,900 palmyra palms and 19,754 choondapana (Sago) palms, or respectively 6,842, 293 and 1,655 more than those for the previous year. The increase was due to improved preventive work and better supervision on the part of the department. Palmyra palms were tapped in five taluks of the Trivandrum Division and in the taluk of Shencottah in the Quilon Division, and toddy was drawn from sago palms in seven taluks of the Quilon Division and in eight taluks of the Kottayam Division. The largest number of cocoanut palms, *viz.*, 13,545 was tapped in the Ambalapuzha taluk; the taluk of Agasteeswaram was first in the number of palmyra trees tapped for fermented toddy, *viz.*, 3,803; and the highest number of choondapanas, *viz.*, 4,660, were marked in Meenachil. The total amount of tree tax collected during the year was Rs. 4,54,127 against Rs. 3,67,270 in the previous year.

55. The quantity of foreign liquor including all varieties imported into the State during the year was 28,357 gallons or 5,169 gallons more than the quantity im-

*Foreign Liquor.* ported in the previous year. The number of licenses issued for wholesale vend of foreign liquor fell from 34 to 27, the number of licenses for retail vend remaining the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 9. The total collections under license fee on foreign liquors amounted to Rs. 14,370 *i. e.*, Rs. 454 less than the fees collected in the previous year. The decrease was due to the smaller number of licenses issued during the year.

56. The total demand for the year, including arrears, was Rs. 21,62,380 of which Rs. 21,26,578 was collected and Rs. 2,416 was written off, leaving a balance

*Abkari Revenue.* of Rs. 33,386 pending collection\* at the end of the year. The percentage of collection under current demand was 99·9 and under arrears 7·9 against 99·4 and 11·1 respectively in the previous year,

57. The independent shop system in regard to the sale of opium and ganja was in force throughout the State. The supply to the vend contractors was made by the department, the opium and ganja required being purchased from the Madras Stores and issued from the Central Stores at Trivandrum. The issue price of opium continued to be Bh. Rs. 76½ per seer, while that of ganja was raised from Bh. Rs. 26 to Bh. Rs. 27½ per seer with effect from the 19th Meenam 1102.

58. The number of shops working during the year was 129, i. e., 2 less than that for 1101 M. E. There was thus one shop to 59·11 square miles and 31,055 inhabitants against 58 square miles and 30,580 inhabitants in the previous year. The quantity of opium issued for sale fell from 4,544 seers to 4,444 seers and that of ganja rose from 4,937 seers to 5,112 seers. The decrease under opium was due to the strict control exercised by the department over the issues to the shops and the increase under ganja was due to the better quality of the stuff obtained from Madras. The average consumption per head of population was ·088 tolas of opium and ·102 tolas of ganja against ·090 tolas of opium and ·098 tolas of ganja in the previous year. The largest quantity of opium was consumed in the taluk of Kottayam, followed by Minachil, Changanacherry and Kunnatnad. The largest quantity of ganja was consumed in the taluk of Neyyattinkara, followed by Quilon, Neduvankad and Karunagapalli. The average retail selling prices per tola of opium and ganja in the whole State were Bh. Re. 1-11-6 and as. 9 ps. 9 respectively. The total collections under this head amounted to Rs. 4,85,284 or Rs. 6,855 more than the collections in the previous year. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 3,09,919 represented the rebate of duty on opium and ganja received from the British Indian Government. The percentage of collection to demand was cent per cent. The total receipts under Abkari, including opium and ganja, amounted to Rs. 31,97,978 against Rs. 29,12,951 in the previous year. The incidence per head of population was as 12-ps. 5 against as. 11-ps. 4 in 1101.



59. The tobacco required for consumption in the State is imported by merchants on their own account by land, sea or rail and bonded in the Sirkar warehouses where

*Tobacco—System of Supply and Sale.* it is allowed to remain in the joint custody of the Government and the merchants. The merchants remove the tobacco from

the warehouses after paying the import duty. The varieties of tobacco imported are Tinnevely, Jaffna and Coimbatore. The system of sale of tobacco under licenses remained in force in the taluks of Tovala and Agasteeswaram excepting the Neendakara pakuthi of the latter taluk, in the taluk of Shencottah, the Alleppey pakuthi of the Ambalapuzha taluk and in all the taluks of the Devicolam and Kottayam Divisions.

60. The consumption during the year of duty-paid tobacco fell from 19,644 candies to 19,495 candies or by 149 candies.

*Tobacco Consumption.* Excluding a third of the population as children and non-users of tobacco, the average consumption per head of population was 4.38 pounds against 4.41 pounds

in the previous year. The total collections amounted to Rs. 20,39,412 or an increase of Rs. 46,635 over the receipts in the previous year. This increase in spite of the fall of 149 candies in consumption was due to the innovation made in the middle of the previous year by altering for purposes of levying duty the standard of weight from the Dutch pound to the pound Avoirdupois.

61. The number of cases investigated by the department under the abkari, opium, tobacco and salt laws rose from 2,361 to 2,955. There was thus an increase of

*Excise Offences.* 594 cases during the year under report. Of the cases investigated, 2,621 were charged

before the Magistracy, 253 cases were either referred for orders or struck off the register and 81 cases were pending investigation at the end of the year. Including the 34 cases pending trial at the close of the previous year, the Magistracy had to deal with 2,655 cases of which 2,552 ended in conviction, 59 in acquittal and 44 were pending trial at the close

of the year. The percentages of conviction and acquittal were 97·74 and 2·26 respectively against 96·85 and 3·15 in 1101. The number of cases detected by the department rose from 2,262 to 2,901. The number of cases reported relating to illicit distillation and possession of illicit liquor was 336 or 48 cases more than in the previous year. Detected cases of illicit manufacture of toddy also rose from 1,280 to 1,814. With the increase in the number of cases investigated by the department and disposed of by the Magistracy, the aggregate amount of fine imposed during the year, *viz.*, Rs. 28,555, was more than the previous year by Rs. 5,700. Although there is still scope for more effective work in detection, it is encouraging to note that the department has, in furtherance of the abkari policy of Government, realised the great importance which has to be attached to efficient preventive work.

62. During the year under report, there were 451 fines, 13 degradations, 74 suspensions, one dismissal and 4 forfeitures of appointments against 406 fines, 10 degradations, 83 suspensions, 2 dismissals and 3 forfeitures of appointments in 1101.

*Discipline.* Discipline in the department was maintained with undiminished rigour throughout the year.

63. The subjoined statement gives the receipts and expenditure under the head of Excise (Abkari, Opium, Ganja and Tobacco) during the past three years :—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts .	45,57,505	48,90,593	52,37,100
Expenditure .	3,91,569	3,84,800	4,01,456

The receipts of the department showed an increase of Rs. 3,46,507 over those of the previous year, while the expenditure too increased to the extent of Rs. 16,656. The net

revenue under Excise thus rose from Rs. 45,05,793 to Rs. 48,35,644.

#### Customs Revenue.

64. Under the Interportal Trade Convention entered into with the British Government in 1865, Travancore does not levy duty on imported goods, with certain exceptions, produced or manufactured in British India or in the Cochin State, or on other goods which have already paid import duty in Cochin or in British India. But Travancore levies duty on articles imported by sea direct from countries outside India. The average amount of customs collected at the time of the Interportal Convention was Bh. Rs. 53,218 of which Rs. 13,218 represented the amount of import duty then realised at the Travancore sea-ports, and the British Government guaranteed the State a total import revenue to this extent by undertaking to make good any deficit up to Bh. Rs. 40,000 a year. In other words, when the Travancore Sea Customs collections (on imports from foreign countries excluding goods imported by sea for the use of the Travancore Government) are less than Bh. Rs. 13,218, the British Government pay to Travancore Bh. Rs. 40,000, but if in any year the collections exceed Bh. Rs. 13,218, the excess amount realised is deducted from the sum of Bh. Rs. 40,000 and the balance alone is payable to Travancore. A sum of Rs. 985 was received during the year under report from the British Government under the Interportal Trade Convention. Tobacco, salt, opium and spirits are excluded from the convention. Foreign liquors which have paid duty at British or Cochin ports are also exempted from duty. The assigned values and rates of duty adopted by Travancore in regard to imports from foreign countries follow the British Indian Tariff.

65. In regard to exports the State is free to levy duties on any commodity. Under the Interportal trade Convention, however, the rate of duty on tariff valuations shall not exceed Rs. 5 per cent on all ordinary exports, Rs. 10 per cent on timber and Rs. 15 a candy on pepper and betelnut. Of articles on which

export duty is now levied the most important are copra, coir, cocoanut oil and cocoanuts, tea, pepper, dry-ginger, jaggery, salt-fish, arecanut and tamarind. The revenue is collected at land and sea customs houses of which there were during the year the same number as in the previous year, *viz.*, 66.

66. The tariff value of molasses was raised from Bh. Rs. 6 to Bh. Rs. 10 per cwt. with effect from the 20th November 1926. The tariff value of copra was reduced from Bh. Rs. 22-8 to Bh. Rs. 18 per cwt. and of cocoanuts from Bh. Rs. 67-8 to Bh. Rs. 50-10 per 1,000.

*Tariff  
Changes.*

The value of arecanuts without husk was raised from Bh. Rs. 150 to Bh. Rs. 200 per candy and of prawns from Bh. Rs. 25 to Bh. Rs. 37-8 per cwt. These revisions took effect from the 8th February 1927 in order to bring them more into line with the market value of these articles. Duty was imposed on all tea exported from Travancore at the rate of Bh. Re. 1-8 per hundred pounds with effect from the 15th May 1927. Lastly, the tariff value of cocoanut oil was reduced from Bh. Rs. 18-12 to Bh. Rs. 15 per cwt., with effect from the 15th June 1927. This was a protective measure necessitated by the reduction in the tariff value of copra and cocoanuts so that the trade in cocoanut oil might have the same advantage in the markets as before.

67. The total receipts under imports rose from Rs. 3,06,860 to Rs. 3,36,483, while the export duty realised during the year also rose from Rs. 27,03,053 to Rs. 29,04,422. The bulk of the import duty, *viz.*, 61 per cent, was realised from tobacco, both raw and manufactured, a commodity outside the scope of the Inter-

*Receipts under  
Imports and  
Exports.*

portal Trade Convention. The produce of the cocoanut tree, *viz.*, copra, cocoanuts, coir, cables, coir-fibre, husk, oil and punac, contributed the major portion of the export duty, *viz.*, 54 per cent. Although there was an increase in duty from cocoanuts, coir, coir-fibre, cocoanut oil and punac, there was a fall under copra, cables and husk. There was an appreciable recovery during the year of the trade in coir. While in 1100 a quantity of more than 831,923 cwts., of coir

was exported, the exports fell in 1101 to 635,828 cwts., owing to a glut in continental markets. In the year under report, however, the exports rose to 759,383 cwts. It is expected that the demand for the article will continue and that the trade will fully recover in the current year. The heavy fall under copra was mainly due to the reduction in the tariff value of the article. There was an increase of 5,571 candies of pepper exported and an increased duty of Rs. 1,11,729 was realised therefrom. The duty on tea amounted to Rs. 3,78,255 against Rs. 3,92,287 in 1101.

68. The following statement gives the receipts and expenditure under customs during the past three years :—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	26,67,733	28,71,437	30,21,504
Expenditure	79,684	75,420	79,223

The net income from customs rose from Rs. 27,96,017 to Rs. 29,42,281. The increase was mainly noticed under the exports of coir, pepper, prawns, arecanuts and jaggery.

#### The Forest Department.

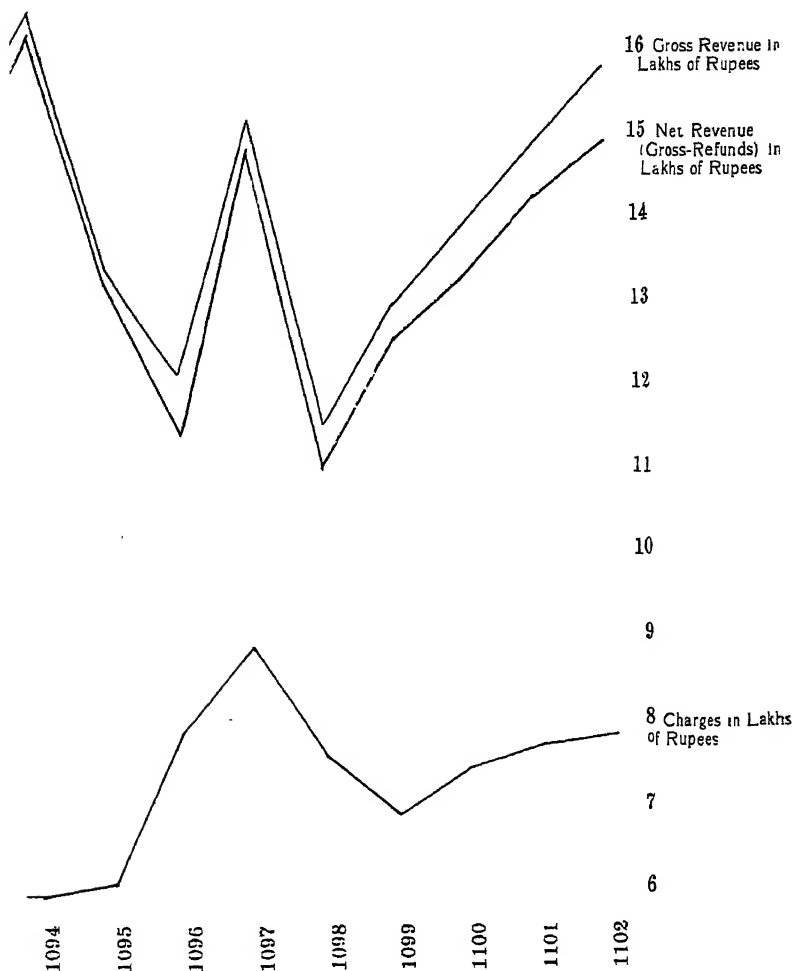
Conservator. *Mr. R. Dhanukoti Pillai, B. A.,*  
*Honors. (Oxon).*

69. Travancore has been a country of forests from the earliest times. In the early part of the last century, teak was the only timber monopoly of the State. People were free to fell and remove every other kind of timber except that it was subject to a slight river duty when the timber was conveyed by water. The first Conservator was appointed more than a century ago with an establishment costing a little over Rs. 1,000.

*Historical  
Survey.*

# **FOREST REVENUE AND CHARGES AND FOREST AREA.**

17



Forest Area in Thousands of Sq. Miles.

(2458) (2458) (2456) (2453) (2444) (2447) (2456) (2490) 2489

1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 1990 1991 1992



The Conservator's function was to arrange for teak and cardamoms being collected and delivered at Alleppey. From this small beginning the department steadily grew in size and strength with increased and multifarious functions. In 1844, blackwood and anjili were declared monopolies, and these were followed by wax and cardamoms, ebony and sandalwood. Cardamoms ceased to be a monopoly in 1071 (1896). Artificial regeneration of teak commenced in 1856. In 1063 (1888) the first Forest Regulation for the protection and management of the State forests was promulgated. The first forest reserve of 300 square miles was notified in the next year. After the lapse of more than a quarter of a century, the area of the State forests has reached 2,391 square miles on which no further increase is practicable. The 'royal' trees now are teak, blackwood, ebony and sandalwood. The receipts of the Forest Department in 1038 (1862-3) amounted to over Rs. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  lakhs. After more than half a century of careful control and management, the income from the department has reached Rs. 15.19 lakhs. The expenditure on the department too has proportionately increased from Rs. 79,673 in 1059 (1883-4) to Rs. 7.91 lakhs in 1102 (1926-27.) Artificial regeneration of valuable timber has become a settled policy of the department. The receipts from minor forest produce has increased from Rs. 2,500 in 1069 (1893-4) to Rs. 52,854 and this is due to the effective management of the State forests.

70. Reserved forests covered 2,391 square miles and 480 acres at the end of 1102. Lands in process of settlement as reserved forests covered 93 square miles and 633 acres. Fuel and fodder reserves covered 4 square miles and 129 acres. There has been during the year a reduction of 356 acres of forest land.

71. The policy of the Government has been to refrain from further reservation of extensive areas. Reservation has been so far made with a view to obtain the highest possible yield from that part of a forest block which is commercially valuable; to protect the forest growth in mountainous tracts for the prevention



of erosion and landslips; to regulate the flow of water in streams originating from the hills; and to preserve intact the sources of supply of small timber and fuel to the agriculturist and fodder for cattle. It is further the policy to develop the utilisation of soft woods. On the conservancy side special efforts are devoted to the scientific plantation of valuable timbers to replace fellings in natural forests. The Government are disafforesting as much suitable land as practicable for paddy cultivation.

72. The Vazhichal Fuel Reserve was finally settled during the year under Section 18 of the Forest Regulation. Revised notifications in respect of Irattur Mala, *Reserved* Alathara Mala and Piravanthur areas in *Forests.* the Quilon Division were also issued. The recomputation of the reserves resulted in the addition of 313.50 acres to the area of reserved forests. About 517 acres were disafforested to provide lands for the extension of cultivation. The net result was a decrease of 204 acres in the area of the reserved forests.

73. Nineteen proposed reserves and 17 fuel and fodder reserves were pending settlement at the close of the previous year. With a view to the speedy disposal of this *Forest Settlement.* large number of pending cases, the appointment of a Special Forest Settlement Officer was sanctioned at the commencement of the year. The total number of claim cases for disposal by the Special Officer was 146 of which 40 were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 106 cases at the end of the year.

74. Forest exploitation is regulated by working plans or working schemes to bring all important forests under systematic management, to ensure continuity of treatment and orderly and economic working *Working Plans.* on an organised basis as well as to ensure scientific forest regeneration looking forward several decades. No new working plan or scheme was taken up afresh and completed during the year as there was very little need for the preparation of such plan or scheme of remote areas which could be taken up for working only at later periods when there would be

a greater demand for timber and better facilities for exploitation. Working plans or schemes were available at the close of the year for 1,125 square miles 426 acres, while data for the preparation of working schemes were being collected in respect of 54 square miles.

75. The natural reproduction of valuable species like Irul, Thembavu, Maruthu, Kumbagam, Kongu and sandal seedlings was particularly encouraging in the several forest divisions. Under artificial regeneration, an extent of 910.35 acres was planted

with teak. The corresponding areas for 1101 and 1100 were 699.25 acres and 370.50 acres respectively. The average cost of planting fell from Rs. 1.25 per acre in 1101 to Rs. .66 per acre in 1102. The diminution in the average cost was due to the Taungya system of planting already described in the report for the previous year. The agencies employed were as before Co-operative Societies and private individuals where such societies did not exist. The Taungya system attracted the notice of the Madras Forest Department. The Chief Conservator, Mr. H. Tireman, had paid a visit to the State forests during the previous year ; and it was encouraging to the

*The Taungya System.* officers of the department and gratifying to the Government that he expressed himself in terms of high appreciation of the progress in forestry made in Travancore. As a result, Mr. R. S. Browne, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Madras, was deputed to study the system here. After visiting the State forests in September 1927, he wrote to the State Conservator that he was impressed both by the magnitude of the regeneration operations which the department is carrying out and by the splendid results which the department has achieved. The system of stump-planting and the methods adopted by the Travancore Forest Department with so much success are apparently unknown elsewhere. Teak defoliators which appeared in some of the plantations with severity, disappeared with the rains. Slight damage was done in the younger plantations by stem borers. Thinning operations were carried on in the Northern, Central and Shencottah Divisions. Climbers which suppressed the growth of useful trees were cut

down. Cultural operations such as weeding, cutting back and coppicing deformed stems, and girdling inferior species, were carried out in the Shencottah Division. Further attempts were made to extend the growth of mahogany. The experiment of undersowing plantations with Boga (*Thephrosia Candida*) seeds to keep away the growth of noxious weeds, was continued. The results of the experiment of planting the leguminous creeper *Vigna Oleosperma*, as a cover-crop on teak plantations to prevent surface-wash on the steepest hills and to keep the soil moist are being watched.

76. The extraction of timber from the forests was entrusted as usual mostly to contract agencies and there was no change in the methods of exploitation or in the transport of forest produce. The quantity of timber extracted and removed from the forests during the year amounted to 1,098,465 cubic feet. This fell short of the quantity removed in 1101 by 17,673 cubic feet. The decrease in out-turn was mainly under timber worked down by Government agency. The quantity extracted from the forests consisted of 517,874 cubic feet of "royal" trees and 580,591 cubic feet of junglewood. The disposals including the previous year's stock amounted to 562,062 and 559,322 cubic feet respectively or 1,121,384 cubic feet in all, leaving a balance in stock of 612,972 cubic feet. The total receipts on account of the sale of "royal" trees and junglewood amounted to Rs. 13,77,099 against Rs. 12,90,446. There was thus an increase of Rs. 86,653 over the receipts of the previous year.

77. The receipts under firewood and charcoal increased from Rs. 35,655 to Rs. 45,994. More than three hundred thousand bamboos were disposed of by the department and a sum of Rs. 23,110 was realised therefrom. Rs. 8,547 was realised by the sale of ivory. The realisation from grazing permits and fodder was Rs. 23,102. The total receipts from minor produce amounted to Rs. 52,854 against Rs. 60,165 in 1101. The quantity of sandalwood collected

Minor Forest Produce.

was 440 maunds and 18 pounds which realised Rs. 7,099. The prices fetched for sandalwood during the year were exceptionally good and the Conservator expects a good source of revenue with the development of the sandal reserves.

78. There has been a steady increase in the number of elephants throughout the Travancore forests. Capturing operations conducted during the year in the

*Elephants.* Central, Kottayam and Northern Divisions resulted in the trapping of 21 elephants (13 tuskers and 8 cows). Of the 34 elephants in charge of the department, 4 tuskers and 5 cows were sold in auction, one young tusker was disposed of by negotiation, while two tuskers and one cow were sold to the Devaswom Department. Seven tuskers and 2 cows died during the year, the high mortality being due to anthrax in three cases; and one calf escaped into the forests. The casualties thus exceeded those of the previous year by 6, five belonging to the fresh captures of the year. There remained at the end of the year 11 elephants (3 tuskers and 8 cows). The revenue derived from the sale of elephants was Rs. 27,594 against Rs. 28,692 in 1101.

79. The number of forest offences pending disposal at the end of the previous year was 295. There were 1,018 cases to be investigated by the department during the

*Forest Protection.* year against 1,032 in 1101. The majority of these offences *viz.*, 359 related to illicit collection, possession or removal of timber or of forest products. Cases of damage to "royal" or reserved trees numbered 225. The other cases related to clearing of land, setting fire to forests, cattle trespass and miscellaneous offences. Of the total number of cases for disposal, *viz.*, 1,313, 189 cases were convicted, 34 acquitted, 744 compounded and 37 withdrawn. The number of cases pending disposal at the end of the year was 309. A sum of Rs. 11,717 was realised by way of compensation. Proper and effective measures were as usual taken to protect the forests from devastating fires. The area thus protected was 2,123 square miles. An extent of 300.75 acres was however burnt in the Southern Division against 365 acres in 1101. It

is suspected that the area was set fire to and the suspected offender has been charged before the Magistracy. The results of the system of early burning which was started two years ago are reported to be satisfactory. An extent of 240 square miles was closed to grazing during the year. Sheep and goats were prohibited from an area of 234 square miles. The revenue realised during the year in grazing fees fell from Rs. 30,811 to Rs. 23,102. The reason for this decrease is being investigated.

80. The Forest School turned out a batch of 23 trained *Forest School* guards during the year.

81. The revenue and expenditure of the Forest Department during the past three years were as follows:—

	1100.	1101.	1102.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts . .	13,52,888	14,49,639	15,18,660
Expenditure { Forest Conser-			
vancy and works.	5,06,355	5,30,032	5,23,745
Establishment			
etc. . .	2,54,437	2,55,527	2,67,764
Total . .	7,60,792	7,85,559	7,91,509

The gross receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 15,94,627, refunds to Rs. 75,967, leaving a net revenue of Rs. 15,18,660. The refunds were due to the settlement of pending claims as *kudivila* on "royal" trees removed from private lands. The increase in expenditure was on account of the cost of the special staff employed for expediting forest settlement. The net receipts of the department rose from Rs. 6,64,080 to Rs. 7,27,151 or by Rs. 63,071. The surplus income per square mile of reserved forests and other areas

under the department thus rose from Rs. 277 to Rs. 292. The net receipts of the year represented an average income of a little over 8 annas per acre of the State forests or an increase of annas 2 per acre. Although this income is four times the average income derived at present from the British Indian forests, this is, as observed in the last year's report, capable of substantial improvement. While this is satisfactory by comparison, the result, considering the circumstances of Travancore, is not commensurate with possibilities. There are indications, however, that development is receiving the Conservator's attention. A noteworthy feature of the forest administration is that the expenditure bears a commendably low ratio to the income of the department. Evidences of the satisfactory working of the department are everywhere discernible.

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### Stamps.

*Controlling Officer.*

*Mr. K. N. Ramasubba Aiyar,  
B. A., B. L.*

82. The Chief Account Officer is Ex-officio Superintendent of Stamps and controls the Stamp Manufacture and the Central Stamp Depot both of which are under the immediate charge of Superintendents. All stamps manufactured are stored in the Central Depot which is attached to the Divisional Treasury, Trivandrum, and from there issued to the several local and branch depots for sale.

83. The following table shows the volume of printing work done in the Stamp Manufactory during the *Manufacture*. past three years :—

Description of Stamps.	Number printed during		
	1100	1101	1102
<i>General Stamps.</i>			
General Stamp Papers ..	525,756	737,172	641,493
Hundi Stamp Papers ..	...	15,587	10,044
Foreign Bill Stamps ..	13,440	27,636	35,232
One Anna Receipt Stamps ..	612,000	1,824,000	...
Private Documents ..	65,863	93,758	99,962
<i>Court Fee Stamps.</i>			
Court Fee Stamp Papers ..	225,539	135,060	208,602
Court Fee Labels ..	2,439,964	1,864,000	1,682,456
Copying Papers (Ordinary) ..	1,019,679	992,000	1,284,028
Copying Papers (Service) ..	...	80,187	70,177
<i>Anchal.</i>			
Stamps, Cards and Covers ..	9,582,272	8,678,000	9,632,232
<i>Service Anchal.</i>			
Stamps and Cards ..	2,009,364	823,200	2,524,536
Total ..	16,493,877	15,270,600	16,188,762

84. The total value of stamps manufactured during the year was Rs. 21,00,828 against Rs. 28,18,267 *Value of Stamps.* in 1101. Including the balance in stock, the total value amounted to Rs. 1,01,93,484. Out of this, stamps to the value of Rs. 31,83,084 were issued from the Central Stamp Depot during the year.

85. The following tabular statement shows the receipts and *Receipts and* expenditure of the department during the *Expenditure.* past three years :—

		1100	1101	1102
Receipts.	Sale of General Stamps ...	Rs. 8,92,619	Rs. 10,22,887	Rs. 10,45,834
	Do. of Court Fee Stamps ...	16,78,726	17,10,785	17,06,167
	Duty on impressing Documents.	26,671	59,059	30,818
	Miscellaneous ...	7,462	7,062	8,140
	Deduct Refunds ...	93,530	1,04,632	97,918
Net Total ...		25,11,948	26,95,161	26,93,041
Deduct	Expenditure ...	93,962	1,08,293	1,11,629
	Expenditure debit-able to Anchal ...	23,700	23,294	23,760
	Total Expenditure ...	70,262	84,999	87,869

The gross receipts of the year fell short of those for the previous year by Rs. 8,834. This was the result of an increase of Rs. 24,025 under general stamps and miscellaneous and a decrease of Rs. 32,859 under court fee stamps and duty for impressing documents. The expenditure too rose by Rs. 2,870. The net revenue under Stamps thus fell from Rs. 26,10,162 to Rs. 26,05,172 or by Rs. 4,990.



## CHAPTER V.

### JUSTICE AND CRIME.

Chief Justice, High Court.	Mr. H. S. Chatfield, M. A., Barrister-at-Law.
Judges.	Mr. K. G. Parameswara Menon, B. A., B. L. (On leave.)
„	Mr. A. Venkatarama Aiyar, B. A., B. L.
„	Mr. V. S. Subramonia Aiyar, B. A., B. L.
„	Mr. Joseph Thaliath, M. A., Barrister-at-Law. (Acting).
„	Mr. P. N. Bhoothalingam Aiyar, B. A., B. L. (Temporary).
„	Mr. Ch. K. Parameswaran Pillai, B. A., B. L. (Temporary).

The judicial administration of the State rests with the High Court, except in the matter of offences committed by European British subjects in regard to *Judicial System*. which there are special courts established by law. Subject to this exception the High Court is the highest civil and criminal court in the land and the Court has the power of adjudication over suits of the highest value and criminal cases of the most serious nature, although their decisions in some important criminal and civil cases, such as capital and life sentences and decrees in suits of the value of Rs. 5,000 and above, are subject to confirmation by the Sovereign, application for which is transmitted through the Dewan. The High Court has no original jurisdiction. In appeals, however, questions of fact as well as of law are adjudicated upon. Until 1894 there was a “Royal

Court of Final Appeal" corresponding, more or less, to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in England. This Court has since been abolished, but the functions of such a committee are to some extent exercised by a Full Bench of the High Court which, when so acting, passes judgments in the form of advice to the Sovereign. Below the High Court is the civil and sessions court which is the highest court of original jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters. It is styled a District Court for civil matters and a Sessions Court for criminal matters. Below these civil and sessions courts are the courts of the Munsiffs and Village Panchayat Courts for the trial of civil cases and the courts of the Magistrates including Benches of Honorary Magistrates for the trial of criminal cases. Munsiffs' Courts and Village Panchayat Courts have only original jurisdiction and, generally speaking, the jurisdiction of the Munsiff extends up to suits of the value of Rs. 2,000 and that of the Village Panchayat Court up to Rs. 50. Suits tried by the Village Panchayat Courts are of a small cause nature and the decisions are not subject to appeal, although the District Courts have the power to revise them to some limited extent. Munsiffs also try some classes of suits as small cause suits the decisions in which are subject only to revision by the High Court. The decisions of the Munsiff in other suits are subject to regular appeals which lie either to the High Court or to the District Court according as the value of the suit is above Rs. 1,000 or not. In regard to the administration of criminal justice there are below the Sessions Court the Magistrates who are of three classes and some of whom are honorary. The chief magistrate of a district is the District Magistrate who is a magistrate of the first class and under him are other magistrates of the first class and also magistrates of the second class and the third class. Magistrates of the second and third classes have only original jurisdiction and magistrates of the first class, including District Magistrates, have original as well as appellate jurisdiction. The appellate authority over magistrates of the second and third classes is the District Magistrates

and, if specially authorised, other First Class Magistrates. The appellate authority over First Class Magistrates, including the District Magistrates, is the Sessions Court. District and First Class Magistrates are Land Revenue officers, but except in a few cases where Tahsildars are empowered to exercise magisterial functions in their respective taluks, all magistrates of the second and the third class are magistrates exclusively and have no revenue functions. The criminal judiciary in the State in respect of offences committed by European British subjects consists of Special Magistrates and a Special Appellate Judge who are appointed under certain Proclamations under Sign Manual. Special Magistrates exercise original jurisdiction and the Special Appellate Judge exercises appellate and revisionary power over them. But neither of them can award any punishment other than imprisonment extending up to three months or fine up to Rs. 1,000 or both. If in the opinion of the Special Magistrate taking cognizance of a case, the offence is one that cannot be tried by him or be adequately punished by him, he has to commit the offender to the High Court of Madras. All but 8 of the stipendiary magistrates in the State are graduates in law.

2. The entire judiciary is recruited from the ranks of duly qualified members of the service or of the

*The Judiciary.* bar. Judges of the High Court are appointed by the Ruler and they are selected from District Judges or from the leading members of the bar. District Judges are appointed by the Government in consultation with the High Court. Munsiffs

*Appointment.* are likewise appointed by Government on the recommendation of the High Court. District Judges and Munsiffs hold office at the pleasure of the Ruler and vacate office under the rules of the service and are removable for misconduct only after a

*Security of Office.* formal inquiry by a Commission duly appointed by the High Court with the sanction of the Ruler. On receiving the report of such Commissioner or Commissioners, the High Court shall, when the officer charged is a District Judge or Munsiff,

submit the records of enquiry together with their opinion thereon to the Ruler. The Judges and Munsiffs are without exception graduates in arts and law or barristers. The Courts are absolutely free from any sort of interference on the part of the executive authorities. Suits against Government are of every day occurrence and Government regard *Independence.* the final decisions of the courts as binding on them. The courts are authorised by law to issue executions against the Government.

### Criminal Justice.

3. There were at the commencement of the year 64 criminal courts. During the year two Munsiff-Magistrates' Courts were opened, one at Thodupuzha and the other at Changanacherry and one Second Class Bench Magistrate's Court at Mavelikara. *Number of Criminal Courts.* The Stationary Magistrate's Court at Thodupuzha was abolished. There was roughly one criminal court to every 115 square miles of the country and to 60,697 inhabitants against 119 square miles and 62,594 inhabitants in the previous year.

### Crime.

4. The number of offences reported rose from 29,500 to 30,775. The number of offences under special and local laws was 18,079, or an increase of 1,652 cases, while the number of offences under the Penal Code fell from 13,073 to 12,696. *Offences.* The percentage in the former to the total number reported was 59, while that in the latter was 41. The increase of crime under special and local laws was under the Motor Vehicles Regulation, Abkari Regulation and Criminal Breach of Contract Regulation, while offences under the Municipal Regulation, Hackney Carriage Regulation, Police Regulation, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation and Chitty Regulation showed a decrease. The decrease in the number of offences under the Penal Code occurred mainly in respect of criminal force and assault, theft, simple hurt and robbery. There was, however, a small increase in respect of criminal intimidation, insult and annoyance, offences against public justice, grievous hurt and other

mischiefs. Of the number of offences reported, 770 cases were rejected *in limine* against 1,162 in 1101. The percentage of true to reported cases rose from 96 to 97. The number of persons involved in the cases for disposal rose from 64,788 to 67,105. Of these 48,549 or 72·34 per cent were brought to trial against 47,011 or 72·56 per cent in the previous year. The percentage of conviction of persons brought to trial before the Sessions Courts and the Magistrates' Courts, including the Bench Magistrates' Courts, rose from 34 to 35 per cent.

5. The number of female offenders involved in the cases for disposal was 4,188 against 4,903 in 1101. They formed 7 per cent of the total number of persons involved

*Female Offenders.* against 8 per cent in 1101. Females charged with compoundable offences such as simple hurt, criminal force, assault and trespass constituted 29·72 per cent. The percentage of conviction fell from 46 to 9. The largest number of convictions was under the Police Regulation.

6. The number of juveniles accused of offences during the year was 237 of whom 219 were boys and 18 girls. Of those brought to trial, *viz.*, 140 boys, 22 were

*Juveniles.* convicted. In the previous year, however, while 322 juveniles consisting of 317 boys and 5 girls were accused, 135 boys were brought to trial and 13 convicted. The convictions during the year were for theft (9), criminal trespass (7), under the Police Regulation (3), under the Abkari Regulation (1), under the Motor Vehicles Regulation (1) and under the Tobacco Regulation (1). Eight juveniles were transferred to the Reformatory against 4 in 1101.

7. The number of public servants prosecuted rose from 111 to 154. Of these, 7 were prosecuted under the orders of the departmental heads, and the prosecutions

*Public Servants Prosecuted.* against the rest were instituted by private individuals either with or without Government sanction. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 6 and 105 respectively. Four

public servants were convicted against 5 in 1101 on prosecutions by private individuals. Unlike the previous year when the convictions were for torture and extortion, forgery etc., the convictions during the year were all for other offences.

#### Magistrates' Courts.

8. The total number of cases for disposal in the Magistrates' Courts rose from 35,154 to 36,078 and the number of persons involved also rose from 64,788 to 67,105.

*Original Work.* Of these cases, 32,532 involving 57,038 persons were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 3,546 cases affecting 10,067 persons at the close of the year. The percentage of disposal was 90 against 89 in 1101.

9. The total number of cases for disposal fell from 14,313 to 13,142, while the number of cases disposed of also fell from 13,021 to 12,457. The arrears at the end

*Bench Magistrates' Courts.* of the year fell from 1,292 to 685 cases. The percentage of disposal rose from 90 to 95.

As in the previous year Trivandrum showed the largest disposal as well as the heaviest pendency, being 8,831 and 339 respectively. There were 184 cases pending for more than 3 months in all the courts taken together. The average duration of cases disposed of fell from 21 to 18 days. The percentage of convictions rose from 61 to 68. The total number of witnesses examined, viz., 1,635, exceeded that for the previous year by 186. While during 1101, 174 witnesses were detained beyond the first day of their appearance, only 34 witnesses were so detained during the year under report. The work in these courts has on the whole shown improvement.

10. The number of cases for disposal by the Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts rose from 18,292 to 19,663; the disposals from 18,531 to 20,075; and the arrears

*Stipendiary Magistrates' Courts.* from 2,310 to 2,861. Of the cases pending at the close of the year, 1,247 cases were more than 3 months old. The average disposal by a Magistrate was 501 cases against 475 in 1101.

The average duration of a case was 46 days for preliminary enquiries and 26 days for trials against 51 and 29 days respectively in the previous year. The total number of witnesses examined by the Stipendiary Magistrates was 40,493 against 39,106 in 1101. Of these, 882 witnesses were detained beyond the first day of their appearance against 1,210 in 1101. The percentage of convictions was 20 against 19 in 1101. Of those convicted, 82 per cent were sentenced to fine only.

11. The number of magistrates who exercised appellate powers was 11 as in the previous year. The number of appeal cases for disposal rose from 1,345 to 1,470  
*Appellate Work.* and the number disposed of from 1,063 to 1,253, while the number pending fell from 282 to 217. Of the pending cases, 99 were more than 3 months old. The average duration of an appeal case rose from 45 to 80 days. The results of the appeal cases were that in 41 per cent the sentences were confirmed and in 22 per cent the convictions were quashed and acquittal ordered.

12. The total number of cases that came up for disposal before Magistrates' Courts in exercise of their preventive and miscellaneous jurisdiction fell from 1,204  
*Miscellaneous Work.* involving 2,407 persons to 1,152 involving 2,529 persons. Of these, 809 cases affecting 1,418 persons, were disposed of against 887 cases affecting 1,406 persons in 1101. The number of persons convicted fell from 285 to 152 and was 6 per cent of the number dealt with against 20 per cent in 1101. All the applications but one presented before the District Magistrates for purposes of revision were disposed of during the year.

13. A sum of Rs. 65,915 was realised from Magistrates' Courts on account of fees and fines against  
*Fines.* Rs. 61,134 in 1101, and the balance which has to be recovered amounted to Rs. 20,033 against Rs. 15,256.

**Sessions Courts.**

14. The number of cases committed to the Sessions Courts rose from 129 to 187. The total number of cases for trial including the arrears of the previous year, *Original Work.* was 208 against 144 in 1101. Of these 193 cases were disposed of, leaving a balance of 15 cases at the end of the year. One of the cases pending was more than 3 months old. The average duration for the trial of a Sessions case was 31 days, or 11 days more than that for the previous year. The number of witnesses examined by the Sessions Courts was 2,760 against 1,813 in 1101. Of these, 334 were detained beyond the first day of their appearance against 194 in the previous year. The percentage of convictions was almost the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 51. There were 3 cases in which sentences of death were awarded and 22 cases in which the punishment was imprisonment for life. The corresponding figures for 1101 were 1 and 7 respectively.

15. The number of appeals for disposal rose from 251 to 385 and the disposals from 173 to 316. The average duration of an appeal fell from 71 to 64 days. *Appellate Work.* The decision of the superior Magistrates were confirmed in 42 per cent of the cases against 43 per cent in the previous year.

16. Eleven out of the 12 applications for revision were disposed of and 5,080 calendars out of *Miscellaneous.* 5,295 were revised during the year.

17. A sum of Rs. 1,025 was realised in the shape of fines *Fines.* and the amount pending recovery fell from Rs. 17,773 to Rs. 14,518.

**High Court.**

18. The number of cases referred to the High Court by the Sessions Courts rose from 5 to 20 and the number of persons involved from 8 to 24. Including *Referred Trials.* the cases pending at the close of the previous year, 7 cases involving 10 persons were disposed of and 14 cases affecting 15 persons were left



pending at the end of the year. Amongst the cases disposed of, death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment in one case and rigorous imprisonment for life was confirmed in 5 cases. The average duration of a referred trial fell from 110 days in 1101 to 78 days in 1102.

19. The number of appeal cases for disposal by the High Court rose from 169 to 205; the disposals fell from 157 to 122 cases; and the pendency at the end of the year rose from 12 to 83. The average duration of an appeal disposed of by the High Court rose from 113 to 116 days. In 51 cases or 42 per cent of the appeals, the High Court declined interference; and in 29 cases or 24 per cent the conviction was quashed and acquittal ordered.

*Appeals.*

20. The total number of cases for revision, the number disposed of and the number left pending at the end of the year rose from 581,571 and 272 in 1101 to 607,573 and 306 respectively. The percentage of cases in which the sentence or order was confirmed rose from 59 to 78. The number of calendars and appeal statements revised during the year was 1,389 against 2,709 in 1101. Forty-five applications for transfer of cases from one court to another and 347 miscellaneous applications for bail etc., were also disposed of by the High Court.

*Miscellaneous.*

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#### Extradition.

21. The number of persons extradited to British India from this State at the instance of the Agent to the Governor-General, Madras States, was 13. Thirteen persons were surrendered to the State, of whom 5 were convicted and the remaining 8 were awaiting trial when the year closed. The principal offences with which the accused were charged, were murder, dacoity, house-breaking by night, theft and criminal breach of trust.

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## Civil Justice.

22. In view of the continuance of heavy arrears in the High Court and in the District and Munsiffs' Courts, the term of the temporary bench of the High Court as well as that of the five temporary second and additional Sessions Judges' Courts and of the six temporary Munsiffs' Courts was extended till the end of the year. Besides the High Court, there were at the end of the year 72 civil courts exercising jurisdiction in the State, 6 District Courts, 7 Second Judges' Courts, 40 District Munsiffs' Courts and 19 Village Panchayat Courts. The number of courts remained the same as in the previous year. There was one civil court to every 105 square miles and 55,639 inhabitants.

23. The following statement shows the volume of litigation during the past two years :

Year.	Original Suits.				Appeals.			Grand Total.
	Village Pan-chayat Courts.	Munsiffs' Courts	District Courts.	Total.	District Courts.	High Court.	Total.	
1101	9,453	64,039	938	74,430	4,021	1,580	5,601	80,031
1102	9,998	62,537	1,098	73,633	4,194	1,444	5,638	79,271

Compared with the previous year, the year under report showed a fall in the total volume of litigation by 760 or '95 per cent. The fall in original litigation was

*Litigation in General.* 1·07 per cent while appellate litigation increased by '66 per cent. Although the total number of original suits instituted during the year was less than that in the previous year, it exceeded the average for the quinquennium ending with 1101 by 1,722. There was one original suit to every 54 persons as in the previous year. The decrease in the number of original suits related both to suits for money or moveable property and to those relating to land. In the former class of suits, there was a decrease of 941

suits for rents, renewal fees etc., by Jennies, while in the latter class of cases, those under partition, renewal of Kanapattom and ejectment showed an increase. The aggregate value of suits instituted in the year fell from Rs. 2,12,56,102 to Rs. 1,53,24,769 or by Rs. 59,31,333. The average value of a suit also fell from Rs. 286 to Rs. 208. While in the previous year suits of value between Rs. 100 and Rs. 500 showed the largest increase and suits below Rs. 30 the largest decrease, the year under report showed the largest increase in suits of value between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000 *viz.*, 137 and the largest decrease in suits between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100 *viz.*, 475. Suits below Rs. 30 decreased by 393 and those above Rs. 5,000 also decreased by 31. There was an appreciable increase in suits between Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 5,000. The number of ordinary suits filed fell from 33,914 to 33,362 and the number of small cause suits also fell from 40,516 to 40,271. The percentage of small cause suits to the total original litigation during the year was 55 against 54 in 1101.

#### Original Litigation.

24. The following statement gives the details of the disposal and pendency of ordinary suits and small *Original Work.* causes in the several grades of courts during the past two years:—

Name of Court.	Nature of Suit.	Total No. for disposal including arrears etc.		No. disposed of.	
		1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.
Village Panchayat Courts	Small Causes	11,127	11,180	10,611	10,405
Munsiffs' Courts	Small Causes	36,619	36,049	32,232	31,286
	Ordinary Suits	57,835	58,178	34,815	34,836
	Total	94,454	94,227	67,047	66,122
District Courts	Small Causes	44	37	38	26
	Ordinary Suits	2,806	3,007	959	781
	Total	2,844	3,044	997	807
	Grand Total	108,427	108,451	78,655	77,334

Name of Court.	Nature of Suit.	No. pending disposal.		Average duration in days of			
		1101.	1102.	Contested cases.		Uncontested cases.	
				1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.
Village Panchayat Courts	Small Causes	56	775	114	84	33	25
Munsiffs' Courts	Small Causes	4,387	4,763	...	..	..	...
	Ordinary Suits	23,020	23,342	422	440	101	109
	Total	27,407	28,105	...	..	...	...
District Courts	Small Causes	6	11	*734	*742	*331	*365
	Ordinary Suits	1,841	2,236	746	748	343	379
	Total	1,847	2,237	...	...	...	...
	Grand Total	29,770	31,117	..	..	..	...

\* These related to original suits.

The number of ordinary suits and small causes disposed of fell from 35,774 and 42,881 in 1101 to 35,617 and 41,717 respectively in 1102. There was thus a fall in the total disposal of original suits from 78,655 to 77,334 or by 1,321. The number of contested suits disposed of was 18,715 or 42 more than in the previous year. The percentage of disposal of original suits fell from 73 to 71. The arrears at the end of the year rose by 1,347.

25. The total number of suits filed in the Village Panchayat Courts formed 14 per cent of the total original institution in the State against 13 per cent in 1101. The average value of a suit fell from Rs. 21 to Rs. 20. Of the 775 suits pending disposal at the end of the year, 97 were more than 6 months old and 36 more than 1 year old, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 43 and 36 respectively.

26. The total number of suits filed in the Munsiffs' Courts formed 85 per cent of the total original litigation in the State against 86 per cent in 1101. The average value of a suit fell from Rs. 265 to Rs. 176. The percentage of contested ordinary suits disposed of was almost the same as in the previous year, viz.,

36, and that of small causes rose from 15 to 27. Of the suits pending disposal at the close of the year, suits of more than 1 year's and 2 years' duration rose from 5,143 and 3,137 to 5,282 and 3,317 or by 139 and 180 respectively. Of the suits disposed of 60 per cent related to immoveable property.

27. The number of ordinary suits filed in the District Courts formed 1 per cent of the entire volume of litigation in the State. The average value of a suit fell from Rs. 4,487 to Rs. 3,883. The number of suits disposed of was 27 per cent of the number for disposal against 35 per cent in 1101. The number of contested ordinary suits disposed of formed 43 per cent of the total disposal of the ordinary suits, against 52 per cent in 1101. Of the suits disposed of, 71 per cent related to land. There were 120 references in all under the Land Acquisition Regulation and 42 of these were disposed of, leaving a balance of 78 references of which 39 were more than a year old. Suits of more than 2 years' duration fell from 657 to 324, while those of more than 1 year's duration rose from 426 to 502 and those of 5 years' duration from 162 to 201. The heaviest pendency of the last kind of suits was in the District Court, Trivandrum, viz., 56.

28. The subjoined statement shows the number of applications for execution of decrees received, disposed of and pending in the several grades of courts during the past two years :—

Name of Courts.	No. for disposal.		No. disposed of.	
	1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.
Village Panchayat Courts	7,504	7,735	7,341	7,519
Munsiffs' Courts	118,032	115,841	103,085	99,818
District Courts	2,860	2,839	2,286	2,035
Total	128,396	126,415	112,662	109,372

Name of Courts	Balances		Average duration in days.			
			Original Suits.		Small Causes.	
	1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.
Village Panchayat Courts	163	216	...	...	47	40
Munsiffs' Courts	14,947	16,023	40	41	23	23
District Courts	624	804	88	86	39	35
Total	15,734	17,043	...	...	...	...

The percentage of applications in which full satisfaction was obtained was 18 and that in which partial satisfaction was obtained was 12. The number of applications which proved wholly infructuous was 71,615 or 70 per cent of the total disposal. The amount realised by issue of process was Rs. 56,78,928, while that realised without issue of process was Rs. 9,80,999. Of the applications pending at the close of the year, 3,242 were more than 6 months old against 2,362 in 1101. The number of applications in which the judgment debtor was imprisoned was 791 against 694 in 1101. Immoveable property was sold in 4,406 cases against 4,342 in the previous year. The number of decrees received for execution in the State from the Cochin State was 40 against 66 and that from British Indian Courts was 88 against 79 in 1101. The number of decrees sent to the Cochin State for execution was 28 and that to British Indian Courts 90, against 22 and 89 respectively in 1101.

#### Appellate Jurisdiction.

29. The total number of appeals including cross objections and appeals from orders which came on for disposal during the year rose from 10,030 to 10,286. The *District Courts*. disposal fell from 4,069 to 3,809. The disposals on the merits also fell from 3,388 to 3,133. Of the regular appeals disposed of, 1,468 related to land. The average duration of regular contested appeals disposed of increased from 474 days to 603 days while that of uncontested suits decreased from 407 to 403 days. The total pendency of appeals including cross-objections and miscellaneous

appeals, rose from 5,961 to 6,477. There were amongst the pending appeals 1,320 cases which were more than a year old and 1,287 cases more than 2 years old. The latter include cases of over 5 years' duration also of which the District Court, Trivandrum, had the largest number, *viz.*, 30.

30. The following statement compares the file, disposal and pendency of first and second appeals in the High Court during the past two years :—

Particulars	No. for disposal		No. disposed of.				Balance.		
			On the merits.		Otherwise.				
	1101	1102	1101	1102	1101	1102	1101	1102	
First appeals	...	1,379	1,352	523	382	36	38	820	932
Second appeals	...	1,363	1,342	595	454	46	38	722	850
Total	...	2,742	2,694	1,118	836	82	76	1,542	1,782

Although the number of appeals for disposal fell by 48, the disposals decreased by 288. The percentage of disposal was 34 against 44 in the previous year. Of the first appeals disposed of, 23 were heard and decided by a Bench of 3 Judges against 30 in 1101. The fall in the disposal of appeals was due to the larger number of sittings of the Departmental Full Bench, the larger number of subordinate courts inspected during the year and to the fact that for 67 days of the year the High Court had only 5 Judges instead of the usual number. The average duration of a first appeal was 468 days and that of a second appeal 414 days against 509 and 389 days respectively in 1101. Of the appeals pending at the close of the year, 449 first appeals and 279 second appeals were more than one year old against 259 and 124 in 1101. There were 33 Full Bench sittings, 381 Division Bench sittings and 170 Single Judge's sittings during the year against 33, 402 and 92 respectively in 1101. There were in addition 43 Departmental Full Bench sittings or 18 sittings more than in the previous year.

31. The subjoined statement shows the receipts and expenditure on account of the Administration of Justice during the past three years :—

		1100.	1101.	1102.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts.	.	54,352	58,612	66,473
	High Court	1,28,328	1,46,093	1,52,522
	Civil and Sessions Courts	6,61,113	6,65,886	6,78,994
Expenditure.	Criminal Courts	1,40,906	1,41,280	1,41,848
	Sirkar Vakils	87,732	85,941	84,459
	Total	10,18,079	10,39,200	10,57,823

In the above statement, the receipts from Law College fees have been excluded from the total receipts and the expenditure on account of the Law College and the Law College Hostel has also been deducted from the total expenditure. The receipts and expenditure under Administration of Justice given in Chapter II include these items.

The net expenditure on account of the Administration of Justice rose from Rs. 9,80,588 to Rs. 9,91,350 or by Rs. 10,762.



## CHAPTER VI.

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### Legislative Council Sessions.

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Three meetings of the Legislative Council, lasting in all for 20 days, were held during the year.

2. The Travancore Cinematograph Regulation, I of 1102, was passed through the Council. This Regulation was enacted to regulate the exhibition of films, the  
*Legislation.* object being not only to prevent the exhibition of objectionable films but also to prevent the exhibition of films in unsuitable places. The one important point on which there was considerable discussion in the Council related to the liability to confiscation of a film on conviction of the offender. This provision was deleted by the Council.

3. The Travancore Mines and Minerals Bill which had been referred to a Select Committee during the previous year was taken up and considered in part by the  
*Bills.* Council. The bill provided for the regulation and inspection of mines and for the prospecting for metals and minerals. The clause relating to hours of work evoked much discussion and the Council finally resolved to reduce the period provided for in the bill from 10 to 9 hours a day above ground and from 9 to 7 hours a day below ground. The Hackney Carriage Regulation Amending Bill and the Irrigation Regulation Amending Bill, two short Government measures, were also introduced into the Council during the period and were referred to Select Committees. A bill to amend the Nair Regulation, II of 1100, was sought to be introduced by a Nayar member, but the Council refused to grant leave. A private bill defining and amending the law of succession and family management amongst

the members of the Nambudiri community was introduced into the Council by a Nambudiri member, and for its discussion, 2 Nambudiries were also co-opted. The principle of the bill having been accepted by the Council, it was referred to a Select Committee.

4. Supplementary grants to the extent of Rs. 2,38,421 were voted during the first two meetings of the Council. The major portion of these grants was for the Departments of Education and Public Works.

5. Notice was given of 1,092 questions. Of these, the President disallowed 73 as they contravened one or other of the rules under the Legislative Council Rules. The number of questions answered was 581; but only 514 were actually published in the proceedings, as the members responsible for the rest were absent at question time. Of the questions admitted, 438 were not answered for want of time or because of difficulty in collecting material for the answer. The average number of questions answered at each day of the meeting of the Council was 29. Twenty per cent of the questions related to appointments in the public service and communal claims thereto, 19 per cent related to local needs and public works, 12 per cent to the Revenue Department, 11 per cent to education, 8 per cent to excise, 7 per cent to public health, 4 per cent to municipalities and the rest to the other departments and miscellaneous matters.

6. The Council discussed 8 resolutions on matters of general public interest. One related to the introduction of compulsory primary education in the State. The resolution was withdrawn on the Government promising to refer the matter to the committee or other agency which it is proposed to appoint to consider the whole question of educational policy in the State. Of the remaining 7 resolutions, three, *viz.*, (a) throwing open of Sirkar Satrams to all classes of people, (b) making a fair provision for adult education of the labouring classes and (c) lowering the speed of motor vehicles, were withdrawn and one relating to

communal recruitment to the public service was rejected by the Council. The last resolution aimed at preference being given to the members of the less represented communities in the matter of appointments. Two resolutions were carried. One recommended the transfer of qualified teachers from vernacular schools to English schools and the other desired that the rates of Anchal cards and envelopes be reduced to four and eight cash respectively. The remaining resolution, the object of which was to enable second grade pleaders of five years' standing in Munsiffs' Courts to practise in the District Courts also, was discussed in the Council but no decision was arrived at as the Council was prorogued on the termination of the time fixed for the session.

7. There were 3 notices of motions for adjournment to discuss recent matters of urgent public importance. As none of these came within the terms of the rules

*Miscellaneous.* providing for such adjournments, the applications for leave were disallowed by the President. The important debates, other than in connection with legislation, were on the following subjects:—

(1) Appointments in the Land Revenue Department with respect to the claims of different communities.

(2) Assignment of Government lands to non-Travancoreans.

(3) Appointment of a Special Income Tax Officer provided for in the budget.

(4) Kudivila on 'royal' trees and felling of these for *bona fide* private use.

(5) Reduction of tariff rates for Government timber.

(6) Irregularities in the Registration Department.

(7) Present defects in the Prison administration.

(8) Local option.

These subjects came in to the budget discussion as token motions. The result of the voting was that the motions were lost in (1) to (6); and (8) was accepted by Government. The Government sustained defeat only on the occasion of the debate under (7).

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## CHAPTER VII.

### PROTECTION.

#### Police.

*Commissioner of Police.*      *Mr. W. H. Pitt, Indian Police.*

The total sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 2,123 officers and men or 49 more than the corresponding figure for the previous year. There was thus one member of the police force to every 3·5 square miles and one to every 1,881 inhabitants in the State. The actual strength of the force at the end of the year was 2,084 officers and men, there being one vacancy in the cadre of District Superintendents of Police, 2 in the cadre of Inspectors and 36 in that of the constabulary. Eight graduates were recruited as Probationary Inspectors and 2 men possessing engineering qualifications were appointed as Traffic Inspectors. All these were placed under training in Trivandrum. Enlistments numbered 108 constables. There were 14 dismissals during the year against 30 in 1101. The percentage of officers and men punished departmentally was 42 against 43 in the previous year. The number of cases in which criminal proceedings were instituted against police officers and men by the public rose from 58 to 78 and the number of men concerned in such cases also rose from 66 to 89. The Commissioner of Police believes that this increase is fortuitous and offers the comment that whereas genuine complaints which will bear investigation are ordinarily brought to the higher officers of the department, those which are taken to the courts direct are mostly such as cannot be substantiated. Of these 89 men, 2 were convicted, 45 discharged and 42 were under trial at the close of the year. Departmental prosecutions were started against 4 police men and all of them were under trial at the end of the year. Three Inspectors, 18 Head constables and 132

constables were granted rewards to the extent of Rs. 659 for good work during the year. One constable of the Madras police and five members of the public were also granted rewards to the value of Rs. 50 for co-operating with the State police. Rewards to the value of Rs. 110 offered by the British and Cochin Police to the officers and men of the State police were accepted. During the year 182 recruits were under training in the school attached to the Head Quarters Office. Of these, 115 passed out and the remaining 67 were under instruction at the close of the year.

2. The total number of true cases of grave crimes reported during the year was 1,179 or 8 cases less than that in the previous year. They were :—

Murder	...	74
Culpable Homicide	...	15
Dacoity	...	9
Robbery	...	70
House-breaking and theft	...	299
Cattle theft	...	78
Theft	...	634

Cases of murder, culpable homicide and robbery increased by 7, 10 and 12 respectively, while those under dacoity, house-breaking and theft, cattle theft and theft decreased by 6, 2, 21 and 8 respectively.

In the cases of murder, the motives which actuated the crime were the following :—

<i>Motive or cause.</i>	<i>No. of cases.</i>
Jealousy	... 42
Drink	... 6
Property dispute	... 13
Money dispute	... 1
Other causes	... 12

The implements used for the perpetration of the crime were:—

<i>Nature of the implement.</i>	<i>No. of cases.</i>
Knife	... 34
Chopper	.. 15
Dagger	... 1
Axe	.... 1
Pestle	... 2
Plank	.. 1
Strangulation by rope	.. 1
Drowning	.. 10
Hands	... 3
Stick	... 5
Poison	... 1

The cases of dacoity occurred in the taluks of Kalkulam, Chirayinkil, Quilon, Kottarakara, Pattanamthitta, Changanacherry and Muvattupuzha. Land disputes occasioned during the year 54 cases of breaches of peace, 32 cases of assault and 41 cases of grievous hurt, while the corresponding number of cases resulting from religious feuds were 5, 1 and 1 respectively. The number of cases of reported violence was 560 and every taluk in the State had a share in these offences, the largest number being in the Trivandrum taluk, followed by Neduvankad, Neyyattinkara and Changanacherry. The value of property lost through grave crimes was Rs. 69,067 against Rs. 75,547 and property worth Rs. 25,305 or 37 per cent was recovered during the year against 49 per cent in the previous year. The total value of property lost through crime in general was Rs. 74,158 of which property worth Rs. 28,486 or 38 per cent was recovered during the year, the corresponding figures for 1101 being Rs. 93,921 and Rs. 45,562 or by 49 per cent respectively. This percentage was far higher than that obtained in the adjoining British districts.

3. Twenty-two offences in connection with currency were reported during the year of which 3 were in respect of coins and 19 related to currency notes. All these 19

*Counterfeiting* cases were off-shoots of old cases. Of  
*Coin and Curren-* these 22 cases, 17 cases were charged, 4  
*cy Notes.* were pending police investigation and one case was transferred to the undetected list,

Eight of the cases charged were convicted, one case ended in acquittal and 8 cases were pending trial at the close of the year.

4. The total number of cognisable cases for disposal during the year was 3,346 against 3,495 in 1101. Of these, 1,040 were referred as false, 277 as undetectable, and 7 left uninvestigated under Section 139 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The number of cases pending investigation at the end of the year was 209. The number of cases charged during the year was 1,908. Of the 476 cases referred by the Magistracy to the Police, 364 were found to be false. The percentage of detection increased from 45 to 56 and the percentage of conviction also rose from 39 to 52.

5. In the disposal of cases charged there was an average duration of 74·5 days, in cases referred 57·9 days and in reports on undetected crimes 40·5 days against 59, 68·6 and 86·8 in 1101. The Commissioner complains that the time taken by the courts to dispose of police charges has been steadily rising and is now a serious handicap involving, as it does, great inconvenience to the public and consequent reluctance on their part to assist the prosecution in criminal cases. The effects of Magisterial delays must, of necessity, react seriously against public security and confidence. The work of these courts is now being carefully watched for the application of correctives ; and the question of an improved system of recruitment for the subordinate Magistracy is under consideration.

6. The total number of cases handled by the Prosecuting Inspectors was 973 against 921 in 1101. The percentage of successful prosecution was 67 in original cases and 78 in appeals. Eight cases of escape of prisoners from police custody were reported during the year. Of these, 5 were recaptured and the remaining 3 were at large at the close of the year. The number of processes executed by the police was 157,711 and this represented 95 per cent of the process received for service.

It is noteworthy that every member of the police force is able to read and write. The number of cases handled by the Criminal Intelligence Department fell from 16 to 13.

7. The number of finger print slips received for search during the year was 1,060 against 1,310 in 1101. Of these, 19·2 per cent were identified.

*Finger Print Bureau.*

8. There was a substantial increase in motor traffic in the State. The number of motor vehicles newly registered in the year was 438 and drivers' licenses were issued in 3,165 cases. The receipts under the Motor Vehicles Regulation amounted to Rs. 35,998 against Rs. 23,309 in 1101. At the close of the year, heavy buses increased from 33 to 34, light buses from 458 to 563 and cars from 51 to 98. This increase in motor traffic called for greater vigilance and control and hence the appointment of two additional Traffic Inspectors was sanctioned during the year. As a result of the appointment of these Inspectors, there was an appreciable fall in the number of offences during the year from 194 to 150. These were dealt with by Traffic Inspectors alone. Of these 150 cases, 113 ended in conviction, 3 were discharged and 34 were pending trial at the close of the year. The total number of cases throughout the State relating to motor vehicles under the Motor Vehicles Regulation, under the Penal Code and under other Regulations, was 3,128 of which 17 were reported for departmental action and 3,077 were charged. In the former, licenses were suspended or cancelled in 10 cases and in the latter 2,079 cases ended in conviction.

9. The number of hackney carriages registered during the year fell from 526 to 494. Drivers' licenses were issued to 491 persons against 475 persons in 1101.

*Hackney Carriages.* The decrease in the number of hackney carriages has been counterbalanced by the replacement of this method of transport by a steady influx of motor vehicles.



10. The following statement gives the receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years :—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	30,912	41,201	60,891
Expenditure ...	5,47,443	5,83,653	5,67,006

The burden of police protection upon the tax payer was only about As. 2 per head of population. This is considerably less than what the British Indian tax-payer has to meet.

#### Army.

*Commandant.* Major A. C. A. Thackwell, M. C.  
(till 8-3-1927.)

Major G. F. Turner, M. C.  
(from 1-6-27.)

*Officer Commanding,*  
1st Battalion. Capt. J. F. A. Postance.  
,, 2nd Battalion. Capt. A. A. Fraser Harris.

11. Major A. C. A. Thackwell, M. C., continued to be the Commandant, Nayar Brigade, and Officer Commanding, Body Guard, till the 8th March 1927 when he vacated his appointment in the State. Major G. F. Turner, M. C., 3/1st Punjab Regiment, D. A. A. and Q. M. G. Aden Brigade, who was appointed successor to Major Thackwell, took over command of the Brigade and the Body Guard on the 1st June 1927. During the interval, Captain R. E. Greenhouse, Officer Commanding the 2nd Battalion, assumed temporary command of the Brigade and the Body Guard in addition to his own duties.

12. The strength of the Nayar Brigade was 1,434 at the end of the year, consisting of two battalions and an artillery unit of 30 men with 6 guns. During the year 103 men were recruited. The Indian *Strength and Discipline.* Officers and men of the 1st Battalion had regular instruction on a variety of subjects such as hygiene, physical training, bayonet fighting, fire orders, visual training and judging distances. The health of the Brigade was satisfactory. The appointment of 8 sepoys of the 2nd Battalion as nursing orderlies in the Brigade Hospital contributed to the satisfactory and successful treatment of the few serious cases of the year. An Indian Officers' Club was started during the year. Two sepoys of the 2nd Battalion were tried by court martial for abandoning garrison or post and for conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline, and they were convicted and sentenced to 6 months' rigorous imprisonment. The general conduct of the men was however satisfactory. The Brigade is armed with breech loading bored-out Martini Henry Rifles.

13. The receipts and expenditure of the Military Department during the last three years are shown

*Receipts and Expenditure.* below :—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	1,307	1,923	1,330
Expenditure ...	5,19,436	5,38,570	5,41,249

The receipts decreased by Rs. 593 while the expenditure increased by Rs. 2,679.

### Arms and Ammunition.

14. The number of licenses issued during the year for the import of fire arms, cartridges, detonators, dynamite, etc., was 123. Arms and ammunition were brought into the State by 97 licensees either as personal effects or as articles of trade. Five export licenses were also issued for guns, rifles, etc. Licenses granted for the manufacture of arms and ammunition numbered 66 and those for sale 87. The total number of licenses issued to persons to possess arms or ammunition and to go armed in the State was 4,443 and the amount levied in fees was Rs. 7,677-14-0. Under Regulation V of 1079, 9 licenses were issued for the possession and use of explosives for mining and blasting purposes. The number of shooting licenses issued under the Forest Regulation was 15.

### JAILS.

#### The Central Prison.

*Superintendent.*

*Mr. M. Pothen, B. A.*

15. There were at the commencement of the year 384 convicted, 3 undertrial and 18 civil prisoners. During the year, 686 convicted, 52 undertrial and 78 civil prisoners were admitted. The total strength of the prisoners was thus 1,221. Of these, 636 convicted, 31 undertrial and 82 civil prisoners were discharged, leaving at the close of the year 434 convicted, 24 undertrial and 14 civil prisoners or a total of 472 against 405 in 1101. The total daily average number of prisoners was 434 against 411 in the previous year.

16. Of the 686 convicted prisoners admitted during the year, 602 were for offences under the Travancore Penal Code and 84 for offences under other laws. The convicted prisoners consisted of 680 males and 6 females, 415 being Hindus, 179 Christians and 92 Mahomedans. The largest number of convicts was as usual between the ages 16 and 40. The majority of the convicts, or 67 per cent, were

illiterate and had no definite occupation. Five of the female convicts were married and one was a widow. There were 6 prisoners who were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for life. The number of convicts who had previous convictions was 195. The average daily strength of convicts in the Central Prison was 407 against 385 in 1101.

17. There was no execution or escape of prisoners during  
*Execution and* the year. There was, however, one release  
*Escape.* of a convict who was totally blind.

18. The number of jail offences recorded and the punishments inflicted was 95 against 98 in the previous year. The  
*Discipline and* offences related to remissness in work,  
*Conduct.* quarrels, assault, insubordination and other breaches of jail discipline. The punishments inflicted consisted of penal diet, separate, cellular and solitary confinement and corporal punishment. As a result of the working of the remission system, 58 convicts were released during the year. Religious and moral instruction continued to be imparted to the male prisoners by honorary workers. Elementary education of adolescent convicts made satisfactory progress. The total strength of the class for casuals was 66 of whom 40 were released during the year. The class for habituels contained 38 of whom 26 were released during the year. It is noteworthy that 32 among the casuals and 21 among the habituels who were illiterate on admission, were able to read and write in the course of the year.

19. The percentage of the average sick to the average strength was '31 against '26 in 1101 and the daily average also  
*Disease and* rose from '97 to 1'38. There were 8  
*Mortality.* deaths during the year and this was five more than in the previous year. Three died of dysentery, 2 of pneumonia, 2 of tuberculosis and one of nephritis. Of these 8 cases, 6 were admitted in bad or indifferent health and died within a period ranging from a few days to 6 months.

20. The receipts and expenditure of the institution during *Receipts and* the past three years were as follows :—  
*Expenditure.*

			1100	1101	1102
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	{ Jail manufacture	...	11,103	17,518	20,626
	{ Miscellaneous	...	2,022	2,358	1,845
Total			13,125	19,876	22,471
Expenditure			86,635	94,125	98,390

The receipts from jail manufacture increased by Rs. 3,108. This was due, as in the previous year, to larger orders from the several Government departments, particularly the Medical Department. There is still room for improvement in this direction. The net expenditure rose from Rs. 74,249 to Rs. 75,919 or by Rs. 1,670. The increase was mainly due to the larger purchase of raw materials for purposes of jail manufacture.

21. The cost per head under dieting charges was Rs. 78 *Cost of* against Rs. 87 in 1101, while the cost for *Maintenance.* clothing and bedding of prisoners amounted to Rs. 11-3-9 against Rs. 11-10-6 in 1101.

#### Lock-ups.

22. Persons sentenced to imprisonment for a month or for a less period by the criminal courts in the mofussil are confined in the station lock-ups, while those sentenced to longer terms by such courts and those sentenced to imprisonment by the criminal courts at Trivandrum, are sent to the Central Prison. The number of prisoners confined in the station lock-ups during the year was 3,768 against 4,303 in 1101.

**Registration.***Director.**Mr. C. Mathan, B. A. (till  
14-7-1102).**Mr. K. Venkata Rao (from  
14-7-1102).*

23. The number of Sub-Registry offices rose from 77 to 82 and that of District Registrars' Offices was 3 as in the previous year.

24. The total number of documents presented for registration during the year was 388,840 or an increase of 27,967 documents over those for the previous year.

*Number of Documents.* Including the 29 documents which were pending registration at the beginning of the year, there were 388,869 documents for registration, of which 387,866 were registered, 65 were refused registration and 22 were returned unregistered at the request of the parties. The number of documents pending disposal was 916. The reason for this heavy pendency was the extraordinary rush of documents in the Neduvankad Sub-Registry office. The percentage of documents registered on the day of presentation was 98·14 against 98·5 in 1101. This small difference was again due as in the previous year to the large number of voluminous partition deeds, resulting on the passing of the Nair, Ezhava and Vellala Regulations.

25. The aggregate value of registered transactions rose from Rs. 15,43,15,264 to Rs. 15,54,25,342 or by '8 per cent. The value of transactions relating to immoveable

*Value of Documents.* property increased from Rs. 15,11,34,143 to Rs. 15,26,84,426. The average value of a document relating to immoveable property fell from Rs. 440 to Rs. 414. The average value of a registered document also fell from Rs. 427 to Rs. 400.

26. The percentage of documents relating to immoveable property was 95·8 against 95·2 in 1101. Of these, gifts formed 1 per cent, sales 18 per cent, mortgages

*Classes of Documents.* 42 per cent, perpetual leases 2 per cent, leases of other kinds 8 per cent and miscellaneous 29 per cent. There were

72,569 instruments of sale and 163,108 instruments of mortgage of immoveable property. Money bonds formed 18 per cent of the transactions in moveable property. The number of wills presented for registration during the year was 1,037 against 926 in 1101. The majority of the testators were Nairs (446) followed by Christians (285), Ezhavas (134), Brahmins (42), Mahomedans (26) and other classes (104). Forty sealed covers were deposited with the District Registrars against 28 in the previous year. The number of unopened covers remaining in deposit at the end of the year was 250 of which 118 belonged to Nairs, 76 to Christians, 21 to Ezhavas, 13 to Brahmins, 5 to Mahomedans and 17 to other classes. There were also 5 deeds of adoption registered during the year.

27. The number of *chitties*\* registered during the year rose from 1,291 to 1,445. The total number of *chitties* registered since the enactment of the Chitties Regula-

*Chitties.*

tion, III of 1094, was 8,716 of which 657 terminated at the close of 1101 and 421 in the year under report. The total capital of the *chitties* which were unfinished at the end of the year was 176 lakhs. The department instituted five prosecutions for offences under the Chitties Regulation. Two cases ended in conviction and 3 in acquittal.

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\* A "chitty" means a transaction by which one or more persons called the foreman or foremen enter into an agreement with a number of persons that every one of the contracting parties shall subscribe a certain amount of money or quantity of grain by periodical instalments for a certain definite period and that each in his turn, as determined by lot or by auction or in such other manner as may be provided for in the *variola*, shall be entitled to the "prize amount."

28. The receipts and expenditure of the Registration Department during the past 3 years are shown below :—

*Receipts and Expenditure.*

		1100	1101	1102
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	..	7,38,862	8,29,401	8,70,917
Expenditure	..	2,58,637	2,58,497	2,73,073

The figures under registration in chapter II include the fees for registering Joint Stock Companies as well as the amount of expenditure incurred on account of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and his office. These have been excluded from the above statement and are indicated separately in the next chapter. The receipts have increased by Rs. 41,516 and the expenditure by Rs. 14,576. The net receipts of the department rose from Rs. 5,70,904 to Rs. 5,97,844 or by Rs. 26,940. While the receipts of the department increased by nearly 70 per cent during the past decade, the increase in the expenditure was only about 30 per cent during the same period.

#### Weights and Measures.

29. The receipts from the fees realised during the year by stamping weights and measures rose from Rs. 1,869 to Rs. 2,170 and the expenditure incurred for the purpose was Rs. 480 against Rs. 562 in 1101.



## CHAPTER VIII.

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### PRODUCTION AND INDUSTRY.

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#### Season and Rainfall.

The total rainfall during the year was below the normal, being only 89 inches, or 13 inches less than that in the previous year. The monsoons were not wholly adequate in many taluks. The deficiency was more marked in the southern taluks, in Shencottah and at Peermade than in other parts. In the early part of the year, there was some fear of drought owing to the partial failure and erratic nature of the North-East Monsoon. Crops like horsegram and gingelly suffered badly. For the same reason, the Makaram crop of paddy which depends entirely on the North-East Monsoon was also unsatisfactory. The early commencement of the South-West Monsoon with its heavy rains in the months of Meenam and Medam (March and April) damaged the *punja* crops and affected the yield of paddy in general. These early rains were, however, beneficial to the cocoanut and other garden crops.

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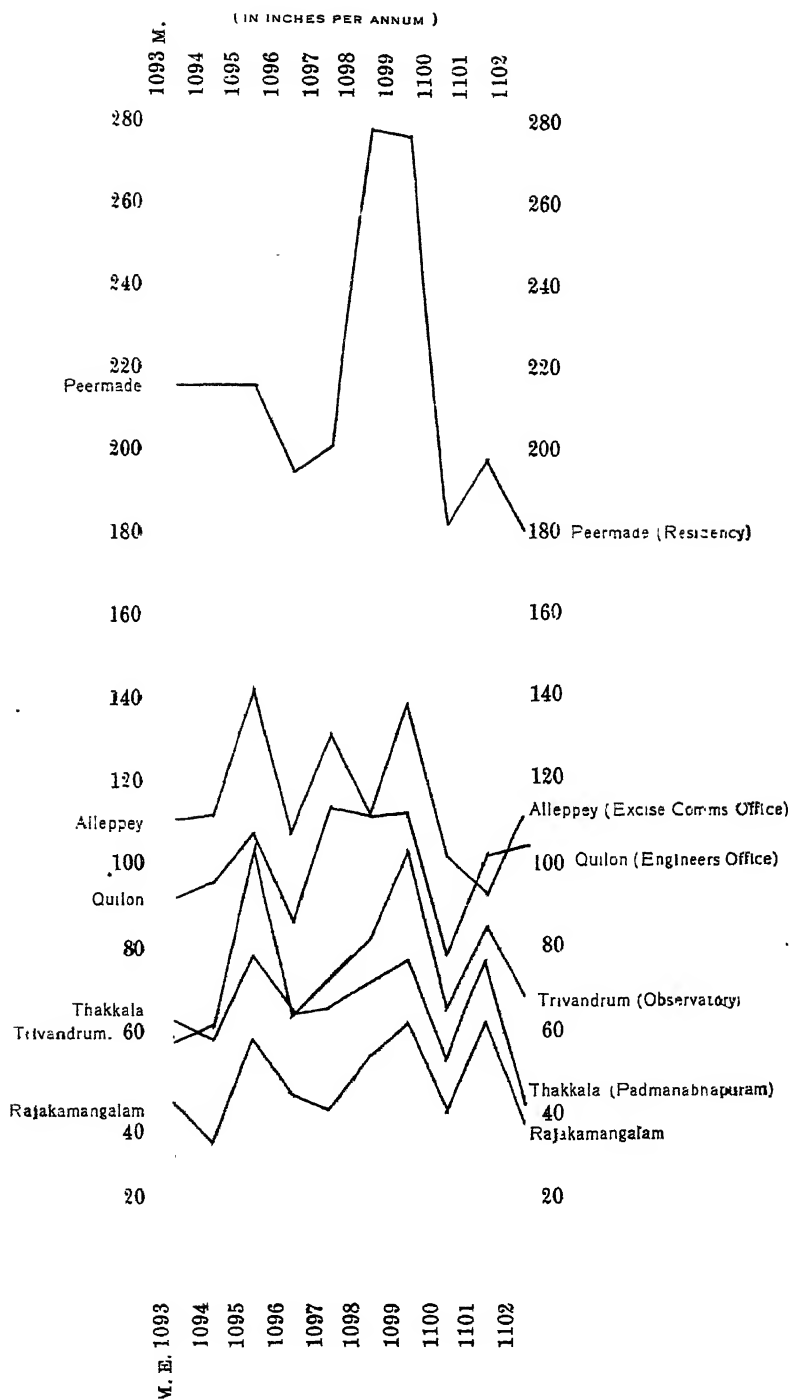
#### Agriculture and Fisheries.

*Director.*

*Rao Sahib N. Kunjan Pillai, M. A.,  
B. Sc., Ph. D.*

2. The determination of the composition of the different types of soils and the preparation of maps showing this composition are the objects of the soil survey.

*Soil Survey.* The Agricultural Chemist was engaged at this work. The work so far as the soils in Nanjinad, Kuttanad, Vaikam and Shertallai are concerned was finished by the end of the year. The results of the survey





have demonstrated that the soils of Travancore are generally deficient in lime; that the soils of Nanjinad, Kuttanad and Vaikam are fairly rich in potash; that the majority of the soils of Kuttanad contain plenty of organic matter and nitrogen; that there is a general deficiency of phosphoric acid in the soils of Travancore and that they will therefore readily respond to the application of phosphoric fertilisers; and that the soil in the coastal tract of Shertallai is deficient in all plant food materials.

3. The investigation of the biological condition of soils is being carried out by the Agricultural Bacteriologist. The biological analysis of *punja* soils which he continued in the year under report, has proved that the rice plant in *punja* lands absorbs nitrogen in the form of ammonia and not as a nitrate; that the total nitrogen in *punja* soils increases by about 20 per cent during the growth of the rice crop due in all probability to the activity of anærobic species of bacteria and fungi; that the rice plant absorbs the nitrogen required for its growth mainly during the period between transplantation and seed formation; that the increase in the nitrogen content of the soil noticeable during the growth of the crop falls off rapidly towards the time of harvest on account of denitrification; and that nitrogen fixation by free bacteria and fungi takes place in *punja* soils and this is at its highest during the growth of the crop.

4. The field experiments conducted at the *Kari* Experimental Station at Porakad were continued during the year. The experiments have shown that *kari* soils could be rendered fit for rice cultivation by the removal of toxic substances and other injurious salts present in them by washing and by a liberal application of lime and phosphatic manure. The success of departmental cultivation at Porakad has attracted the attention of private persons and several of them have started cultivating waste *kari* lands in the locality. *Kari* lands lie in a region, bordering a backwater, where a vast forest was burnt down in prehistoric times. The soil is black.

5. The experiment conducted in the Paddy Farm at Nagercoil for the reclamation of alkaline soils by the treatment of sulphur was continued during the year with satisfactory results. The application of sulphur demonstrably reduced alkalinity in the soil. Investigation as to the effects of the application of calcium chloride to improve alkaline soils was in progress during the year.

6. The work of the department in popularising manures like oilcake, prawnskin, fish refuse, etc., has borne fruit. Laurel poonac, which used to be burnt as fuel, is now largely used for manuring paddy fields. Maroti poonac and prawnskin which used to be exported are now employed as manures for local crops. The preparation of artificial farm-yard manure from an emulsion of dried leaves, useless grass, straw refuse and other waste materials was continued on a large scale. The materials required for the purpose are available in plenty and the manure is prepared with very little labour and cost. The experiment of mixing bone with sulphur and inoculating the mixture with some species of sulphur oxidising bacteria was continued during the year. The department has demonstrated the utility of sunhemp, damcha, kolinji and boja medeloa as green manures. Green leaves stacked in a pit and kept pressed, wetted and covered for 4 to 6 weeks, undergo partial fermentation during which the plant tissues break down and the component parts decompose to some extent. This fermented mass was found to be a better and more quickly acting manure than green leaves as such. This manure was applied to crops like pepper, and to rubber and mulberry with satisfactory results. Imported manures have also been very largely tried. The use of ammonium sulphate and superphosphate produced satisfactory results in Nanjinad. The application of sodium nitrate and kainit in addition to oil cake and fish manure produced the best results in the case of cocoanut. The most suitable manure for sugarcane was proved to be ammonium sulphate and oilcake in addition to the usual quantities of farm yard manure and ashes. During the year, the department conducted 10 manure depots directly and 25 depots under the management of commission agents.

7. The department has popularised the use of the Meston and the climax ploughs. Other iron ploughs are being locally made after the Meston model to suit local

*Agricultural* conditions. In all 730 iron ploughs of the  
*Implements and* above types were sold during the year by  
*Machinery.* the department and private agencies. A

double-roller cane-crushing mill was purchased by the department in 1101 and was demonstrated at Eraviperur during the year. The pumps purchased for irrigation in the demonstration farm at Puliyaara served to show to the ryots of Shencottah one of the methods for lift-irrigation from wells.

### Crops.

8. The problem of introducing intensive cultivation with a view to increasing local production of paddy engaged the attention of the department as in the previous years.

*Paddy.* The cultivation of the Samba and the Val-siramundan was carried on in the Paddy Farm at Nagercoil. Experiments were also conducted with different kinds of manure such as oil cake, farm-yard manure, groundnut cake, phosphatic, nitrogenous and general manures. The best yield was from the application of groundnut cake and phosphatic manures produced better results than the rest. The use of the special paddy fertilizer prepared by the department out of fish refuse, laurel cake and other locally available stuffs gave a better yield of grain than the use of fish guano and farm-yard manure. The transplantation of single seedlings 6" apart has been conclusively proved to be the best method for Nanjinad. The trials of exotic varieties were carried on to find out the best yielders having the shortest duration for introduction at the tail ends of channels where the period of irrigation should be the minimum possible. Seed selection engaged most of the time of the Economic Botanist. The departmental farms disposed of 15,000 lbs. of selected seeds. The practice of conducting demonstrations in private lands of new methods of cultivation and improved types of seeds, manures and implements

was carried on in a more extensive scale. The eradication of some of the worst pests affecting paddy crop engaged the attention of both the Economic Botanist and the Entomologist.

9. The study of the characters of different varieties of cocoanuts was continued in the farms at Alleppey and Oachira.

*Cocoanut.* The habits of individual palms such as the number of spathes they produced in a year, the time required for the development of their spathes and for their splitting, etc., were being noted. Cultural experiments conducted during the year showed that to maintain cocoanut plantations in a healthy condition, the soil should be thoroughly dug once a year and ploughed once a month. Manurial experiments were also systematically carried on in several taluks. As in the case of paddy, manurial demonstrations were conducted in private cocoanut gardens. The attack of the cocoanut Leaf Roller was less severe during the year than in the previous years. The campaign against this pest by cutting and burning the infected leaves was continued vigorously. Experiments were conducted to control the pest of the rhinoceros beetle by the culture of a new parasite and to control the widely distributed disease of the Leaf Rot by inoculation. The Stem Bleeding Disease was controlled by cutting out the infected tissues and protecting the cut surface with tar or some other preservative. Investigation as to the causation of the most serious of all diseases of the cocoanut palm, viz., the Root Disease, was continued throughout the year, with no positive results. Bud Rot was successfully treated by scooping out the rotting tissues, filling the cavity with a mixture of common salt and ash and covering the bud with a pot to protect it from the rain.

10. The crop was affected by the draught which prevailed in the first half of the year consequent on the failure of the North-East Monsoon, and the out-turn was

*Tapioca.* therefore less than that of the previous year. Manurial experiments conducted in Government farms in respect of tapioca showed that a mixture of prawnskin, ash and oilcake produced very satisfactory results.

A root disease of tapioca was investigated during the year. The history of this disease and the methods of combating it were under investigation at the close of the year.

11. Experimental work on pepper was carried on in the Pepper Farm at Koni. Application of lime and organic

*Pepper.* manures like leaf mould, artificial farm-yard manure, etc., had a marked effect on the vines and improved their yield both in quantity and quality. The disease of the pepper vine of the nature of a stem rot engaged the attention of the department during the year.

12. The department conducted experiments and demonstrations in respect of ginger cultivation on *Ginger.* private lands. The use of manures tended to increase the net profit.

13. In the Cattle Farm at Trivandrum, the average yield per tree was 58 lbs. and a net profit of Rs. 353 per acre was realised during the year. In the Experi-

*Rubber.* mental Farm at Kottarakara, the net profit was Rs. 127 per acre. The department had a total area of 125 acres planted up with rubber. The department proposes to conduct experiments on bud-grafting and to open a bud nursery.

14. In the Cattle Farm, two kinds of fodder *viz.*, Guinea grass and Napier grass, were cultivated. They are both quick growing grasses and can be cut once a

*Other Crops.* month. The cultivation of such fodder grass is of paramount necessity to prevent the rapid deterioration of local cattle. In regard to sugarcane, the department confined its attention to the introduction of exotic varieties like the Red Mauritius variety, and the popularisation of special manures. The cultivation of banana in rotation with tapioca, paddy and horsegram was tried on the farm at Alway with success. Several new varieties of fruits were introduced during the year in the Fruit Farm near Cape Comorin.



15. In the Cattle Farm, Trivandrum, work was concentrated on the breeding of Scindhi cows which were found to be most suitable milch cow for the State. In the

*Cattle breeding.* cattle breeding station at Esanthimangalam attention was concentrated on the breeding of Hallegarh bulls introduced from Mysore. Interesting experiments on cross breeding were also conducted in the former farm. The system of awarding grants-in-aid to private persons who maintained stud bulls for public use was continued during the year. Nineteen persons received grants and their bulls served 1,185 cows, while the departmental stud bulls and buffaloes served 412 cows and 44 cow-buffaloes respectively.

16. The Poultry Farm at Trivandrum continued to be popular. White Leghorn and Wyandote fowls reared in the farm were introduced in the country and

*Poultry Farming.* the breeding of Light Sussex was also commenced. Two Co-operative Societies of poultry breeders were organised during the year and they did satisfactory work.

17. Bee-keeping as a hobby is fast spreading amongst the people. The supply of hives and swarms of bees to the public by the department at cost price encouraged

*Apiculture.* this useful subsidiary occupation. The number of private apiaries increased from

79 to 100.

18. Silk worm rearing was conducted in the Silk Farm at Trivandrum where there were 5 acres of mulberry. The

*Sericulture.* area of mulberry cultivation in the farm at Neduvankad was 8 acres. Two hundred pounds of cocoons were raised and reeled during the year. The yarn obtained therefrom was woven into silk cloths and they were sold to the public. The industry has not yet spread amongst the people, although it can be carried on as a subsidiary occupation by agriculturists and agricultural labourers during their leisure hours.

19. The rug and carpet weaving school which was closed temporarily was revived in the middle of the year with 10 boys.

*Blanket Weaving.* They were trained in preparing the fleece from the small flock of sheep in the Silk Farm, spinning yarn on charkas, and weaving blankets on hand looms. Looms and fleece were supplied on loan to seven boys who were trained in previous years. The arrangement is that the blankets made by these boys will be taken over by the department and sold and that the sale proceeds, after deducting the price of the fleece and a small commission, will be made to them. The price of the loom, viz., Rs. 5, will be recovered from them in 10 monthly instalments. The scheme is expected to result in the gradual introduction of blanket weaving as a useful cottage industry among the poorer classes of people.

20. The agricultural school at Alwaye continued to train the third batch of students. The first two batches consisted of 38 students of whom 7 were subordinates of

*Agricultural Education and Publication.* the department and four were subsequently employed in the department. Of the remaining 27 men, 17 had gone to the agricultural colony started at Koni during the year. The scheme of agricultural colonisation sanctioned by Government has been already described in the report for the previous year. The agricultural colony which was started late in the year, cleared the major portion of their lands and cultivated paddy and tapioca. Some of them planted rubber also. The work of one student was unsatisfactory. It is proposed to start a co-operative society and a store for the benefit of the colonists. In regard to agricultural publications the department issued ten leaflets and distributed them to the public.

21. Mr. G. Krishna Pillai, Veterinary Assistant to the Director, was in charge of the veterinary branch of the department. There were, as in the previous year

*Veterinary.* 5 veterinary hospitals and 7 veterinary dispensaries. The number of cases treated in these institutions rose from 11,732 to 12,653 of which 638 were treated as in-patients. The number of operations performed were 3,199 against 2,358 in 1101. The veterinary officers

treated 28 elephants of which 5 died and the rest were discharged cured. Slight out-breaks of foot and mouth disease, rinderpest and anthrax in different parts of the State were attended to promptly and brought under check by the adoption of preventive and remedial measures. The system of grants-in-aid to native vaidyans who were competent to treat ordinary ailments of cattle was continued during the year. The four vaidyans who received such grants treated 3,406 cases. A veterinary compounder's class was conducted for six months during the year and 7 boys were trained as compounders.

### Fisheries.

22. The backwater fisheries were poor. Cat fish was abundant but mullet was scarce. Prawns were

*General.* abundant in the sea. There was an increase in the demand for cured fish and for fish manure.

23. The migratory habits, the methods of artificial hatching and the breeding of mullet larvae were further investigated. The early life of the black clams of the backwaters was also studied with a view to ascertain the causes of the variations in the thickness of the shells. A preliminary investigation was made into the conditions which produced the accumulation of clay in the water near the shore making the sea calm in order to discover certain facts about the habits and habitats of prawns, sardines and mackerel. Some investigation was also conducted into the decomposition of fish and its practical bearing on curing.

24. The lessee of the shank fisheries collected 17,750 shank shells and exported them on payment of a
- Shank Fisheries.* royalty of Rs. 444. The total number of shells collected exceeded the collections in the previous year by 2,350.

25. The number of fish curing yards continued to be the same as in the previous year, viz., 9. The *Fish Industries*. total quantity of fish cured was 20,125 maunds against 30,084 maunds in 1101. The bad fishing seasons accounted for this decrease.

26. Including the new Fishery Continuation School started at Munambam, there were 4 schools for the benefit of the fishermen. That the facilities afforded by these *Education of* schools for the education of their children *Fishermen*. were appreciated by the fishermen was borne out by the circumstance that the strength of these schools rose from 198 to 304. The economic condition of the fishermen in the State during the year was far from satisfactory as a result of poor catches.

27. The number of Vala co-operative societies increased from 32 to 41. The growth of the co-operative movement among fishermen was considerably helped *Co-operation* by the officers of the department, especially *among Fishermen*. the teachers in Fishery Continuation Schools. The societies not only engaged themselves in credit transactions but also managed fish markets, thereby eliminating the middleman. They have obtained licenses to conduct 5 private fish markets and 2 public markets.

28. Agricultural co-operation has been of immense value for the promotion of scientific agriculture. The department has utilised the services of co-operative societies *Agricultural* for the introduction of agricultural improvements. *Co-operation*. Manures have been supplied to these societies for purposes of demonstration. Iron ploughs were lent to them for trial. The agency for the sale of manures was also taken up by them. The Agricultural Inspector in charge of the Cattle Farm at Trivandrum, was given a training in co-operative work in order to equip him for the organisation of co-operative dairy societies.

29. The receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years are detailed below :—

*Receipts and  
Expenditure.*

		1100	1101	1102
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts.	Agricultural receipts	15,568	15,585	16,989
	Veterinary Hospital Fees	240	316	1,326
	Fishery receipts	18,866	21,152	22,146
	Sale of publications	4	..	28
	Total	34,678	37,053	40,489
Expenditure.	Direction	42,135	44,443	43,838
	Farms and Depots	87,452	78,327	88,264
	Agricultural School	6,217	5,867	11,203
	Sericulture	4,772	4,045	4,685
	Apiculture	1,113	1,163	1,120
	Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries	31,754	31,065	32,639
	Grants-in-aid to Veterinary Vaidyans	..	648	648
	Stipends	1,140	..	..
	Fisheries	20,978	21,016	23,337
	Refunds	80	..	..
	Total	1,95,641	1,86,574	2,05,734

The net expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 1,49,521 to Rs. 1,65,245 or by Rs. 15,724.

## INDUSTRIES AND GEOLOGY.

## Minerals.

*Director.**Mr. I. C. Chacko, B. A., B. Sc.*

30. A detailed examination of the deposits of china clay and lignite in the neighbourhood of Kalvathakkalpara was made during the early part of the year. The

*Mineral Survey.* banks of the Nadayara Kayal were examined for exposures of china clay. White clay was found in one or two places much discoloured by oxides of iron. Prospecting work was also done at Cherakara for this clay and lignite. A deposit of mica was found at a place called Minachil in South Travancore. Mica seems to be abundant and is of the phlogopite type. Small deposits of mica of inferior quality were found near Palliadi also. A license was granted during the year to prospect for mica in the Vilavancode taluk. Investigation was conducted on the lime stone bed which was recently re-discovered at Nedumgolam. The shells and impressions found on the limestone gathered were almost wholly of molluscs, but one Echinoderm and many spines belonging to them were found. The investigations tended to show that the Quilon limestone is only one of the strata of the Warkalay Formation.

31. The wells in the Tovala and Nagercoil pakuthies were examined during the year and it was found that only six wells in the Tovala pakuthi contained sweet water,

*Underground* the water in the remaining 26 being alkaline  
*Water Survey.* and that the wells in the Terri formation in the Nagercoil pakuthi contained sweet water while the wells in the decomposed gneisses were brackish. It was also found that below the Terri formation there was a sedimentary bluish white clay bed and that the "chalk hills" of Nagercoil was a distinctly sedimentary formation.

32. The only minerals produced in the country in sufficient quantities for purposes of export, are monazite, zircon and ilmenite. Compared with the previous year,

*Mineral* there was an improvement in export of these  
*Production.* minerals from the State. The quantity of monazite exported rose from 150 tons to 451 tons, of zircon from 514 tons to 756 tons and of ilmenite from 3,215 tons to 9,335 tons.

## Industries.

33. The Industrial Chemist continued further investigations for the preparation of Titanium White from ilmenite. The

*Industrial  
Research  
Laboratory.*

processes for the preservation of local ginger in syrup were completed during the year. The further investigation o. the use of kapok oil for manufacture of soap was continued during the year. The possibilities of utilising lignite as a source of power were explored. The equipment for electroplating was installed and a few orders were duly executed. Some experiments in casting in brass or other suitable alloys, toys, mascots, images, hinges, door handles and articles of artistic interest, were undertaken with a view to ascertain the practicability and the probable cost of the work. Fifty gallons of blue black writing fluid prepared in the laboratory were supplied to the Government Stationery Department. A quantity of silicagraphite paint was prepared and supplied to the Chief Boiler Inspector for trial on boilers or other suitable machinery. To keep the match heads and striking surfaces damp proof, suitable compositions for both these were made. The commercial value of these is under investigation. Two Excise Inspectors were trained in the laboratory in a systematic practical course of analysis of brine and salts of varying purity.

34. Work was practically confined to the production of bark-tanned and chrome-tanned buffaloe leathers. The total value of the production during the year was

*Experimental Tannery.* Rs. 3,275 and the sales amounted Rs. 1,284. Rice bran was tried as a de-

liming and drenching agent with considerable success. Laurel oil was mainly used for oiling tanned leathers instead of the much more costly gingelly oil. The total cost of running the tannery was Rs. 10,136 of which salaries and establishment absorbed Rs. 4,788. The capital outlay to date on the tannery is Rs. 2,021.

35. The Textile Expert continued to be in charge of the Central Technological Institute and the itinerant weaving parties.

*Textile Branch.* Two students completed their course in weaving and two in knitting in the Institute. The demonstration work of the Institute consisted in the execution of orders from other Government

departments and in weaving cloths for sale to the public. The itinerant weaving parties visited several weaving centres and trained a number of young men who were desirous of learning the craft. The total expenditure on the textile branch during the year was Rs. 12,626 of which salaries and establishment absorbed Rs. 6,942. The capital outlay to date on this branch is Rs. 11,488.

36. The Industrial Engineer completed the schemes for the Trivandrum Electric supply and the Trivandrum Telephone Exchange. The possibilities of cement manufacture in Travancore were also investigated and it was found that a cement factory was not an economic or practical proposition in Travancore. As Chief Boiler Inspector, he inspected 94 boilers working in the State.

*Industrial Engineering.*

37. The question of devising a scheme for the development and encouragement of cottage industries is engaging the attention of Government. Government sanctioned *Cottage Industries.* the extension of industrial loans to co-operative societies of bell-metal workers for the purpose of encouraging the industry, and how far this will encourage the formation of such societies and the development of the industry is awaited with interest. A proposal to open auxiliary or central weaveries in selected places on a co-operative basis to encourage weaving among the depressed classes, is under the consideration of Government.

*Factory Industries.*

38. The Malabar Match Manufacturing Company which was reconstructed during the year is expected to start manufacture by the end of the current year. The *Match Manufacture.* South Indian Match Factory continued operations during the year and manufactured 40,769 gross of matches. The match factory belonging to Messrs. Peter and Sons made considerable progress by a daily out-put of 25 to 30 gross of boxes of matches during the latter half of the year. One of the members of this firm made decorative wall mats of soft wood veneers cut into strips and used as weft in a warp of a few cotton threads. This is a useful cottage industry which can be developed in the neighbourhood of a match factory.



39. The machinery ordered by the Travancore Sugars Ltd.,—an enterprise aided by Government, arrived during the year and was being installed. The factory is expected to commence work during the current year.

*Sugar Manu-  
facture.*

40. This industry was started for the first time at Alleppey and at Perumbavur. The raw materials required for the industry are paraffin and stearine which are imported from abroad. The progress of these fresh ventures is watched with interest.

*Candle Manu-  
facture.*

#### Technical and Industrial Education.

41. There were at the close of the year 28 stipendiaries and 12 non-stipendiaries studying free-hand, geometry, design, painting, carving, smithery and pottery in the School of Arts. The majority of the students attended the class for painting. Ten of the non-stipendiaries were girls. Of the 48 candidates who appeared for the Madras Government Technical Examinations, 31 or 65 per cent passed. The manufacture of stoneware articles in the pottery section progressed and many useful articles were manufactured and sold. The results of the experiments in enamelling on gold and silver were satisfactory.

*School of Arts.*

42. The strength of the school at the beginning of the year was 36, 10 in the Senior Civil Overseers' class, 11 in the Junior Civil Overseers' class, 3 in the Junior Mechanical Overseers' class and 12 in the Maistries' class. In the annual examinations, 8 in the Senior Overseers' class, 11 in the Junior class, 1 in the Mechanical Overseers' class and 9 in the maistries' class passed. All the passed students of the school were able to get employment in the Public Works Department.

*Srimulam  
Technical School.*

43. There were 24 students on the rolls of the Carpentry and Smithery School at Quilon. The new admissions in the first year course consisted of 3 Kammalas, 5 Nairs, 3 Christians and 1 Ezhava. Two of the four students who appeared for the final examination came out successful.

*Carpentry and  
Smithery School.*

44. At the beginning of the year, the strength of the Institute was 24 of whom 14 appeared for the annual examinations and 13 were promoted to the higher classes.

*S. M. R. V. Technical Institute.* Instructions in the theory and practice of weaving was given as usual to the students with demonstrations in warping and sizing.

Lessons in freehand and model drawing and scale drawing of looms were also given to the students. Hand-spinning, which was introduced as a subject of study in the previous year, was continued during the year.

45. The number of students on the rolls of the school at the end of the year was 158. One of these was a woman student.

*School of Commerce.* The subjects taught comprised book-keeping, theory and practice of commerce, banking, type-writing and short-hand in English and Malayalam. The results of the students

who appeared for the Madras Government Technical Examinations were satisfactory. One of the successful students in type-writing was a girl candidate. A hostel for the benefit of the students of the school was opened during the year. Towards the close of the year, the classes for imparting instruction in Malayalam short-hand were closed as a sufficient number of students did not come forward.

46. There were 43 aided and 14 un-aided industrial schools at the end of the year. The total strength of the aided schools was 986. The subjects taught were cotton

*Industrial Schools.* weaving, drawing, painting, carpentry and smithery, coir weaving, embroidery and lace-making. The total grant given to these schools amounted to Rs. 12,197.

47. Stipends were given to the six boys who were given instruction in button-making in the Travancore Button Factory at Valiatura. During the year 12 applications

*Miscellaneous.* aggregating to Rs. 13,280 for industrial loans were granted, seven for the encouragement of weaving, two for rice-hulling, one for bakery and confectionery, one for soap-making and one for ivory

carving. It is proposed to revise the existing rules under which industrial loans are granted only in aid of small industries, with a view to make such loans available for larger industrial concerns also. The suggestions of the Director of Industries for legislative action in the matter are engaging the attention of Government. The industrial library which contained 1,537 volumes was made use of by 810 members of the general public in addition to the officers of the department and the students undergoing training in the several departmental institutions. The department issued 3 bulletins during the year, one on lignite, another on book-keeping for rural industries and the third on chrome tanning. Loom accessories worth Rs. 1,336 were purchased and a sum of Rs. 1,113 was realised by the sale of these articles to the public.

48. The receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years are detailed below :—  
*Finance.*

Receipts.	1100.	1101.	1102.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts from Technical Institutes ..	697	509	237
„ from S. M. Technical School ..	338	799	887
„ from School of Arts ..	8,075	4,669	6,435
„ from School of Commerce ..	3,300	3,229	3,966
„ from Carpentry and Smithery School ..	2,313	1,114	689
„ under the Prime Movers and Steam Boilers Regulation ..	2,472	2,331	2,345
Other Receipts ..	4,201	3,476	3,025
Total of Receipts ..	21,396	16,127	17,584
Deduct Refunds ..	„	„	36
Net Total ..	21,396	16,127	17,548

Expenditure.	1100.	1101.	1102.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Direction ..	63,882	37,476	38,447
Srimulam Technical School ..	8,716	8,868	7,006
S. M. R. V. Technical Institute ..	6,520	5,293	5,638
Carpentry School ..	9,232	8,593	7,279
School of Arts ..	24,485	23,686	24,534
School of Commerce ..	5,870	6,914	9,213
Grants-in-aid to Industrial Schools ..	8,048	12,617	12,197
Technological Institute ..	„	3,319	3,261
Itinerant parties ..	„	2,252	3,606
Experimental Tannery ..	3,323	4,981	6,410
Assembling of Umbrellas ..	„	128	„
Electroplating Industry ..	„	629	„
Industrial Engineer and Chief Boiler Inspector ..	9,524	10,145	9,802
Examination charges ..	1,120	1,276	663
Total ..	1,40,720	1,26,177	1,28,056

The net expenditure of the department, rose from Rs. 1,10,050 to Rs. 1,10,508 or by Rs. 458.

#### Economic Development Board.

49. As stated in the last year's report the Economic Development Board is constituted with a view to co-ordinate the activities of the several Development Departments and to secure non-official advice in the development of the economic resources of the State and the establishment of new industries and the expansion of old ones.

The Board was reconstituted for a further period of three years

from the commencement of the year. The present Board consists of 5 official members and 7 non-official members. Four of the latter were elected by the Legislative Council and three nominated by Government. Four ordinary meetings and one special meeting of the Board were held at Trivandrum during the year. The percentage of attendance at these meetings was 83 and 32 subjects were discussed in all.

50. The most important topics considered by the Board and *Work of the* forming the subject of recommendations to *Board.* Government, were the following:—

(1) The necessity for the investigation and execution of minor irrigation works and the provision of funds in the Public Works Department Budget every year to the extent of Rs. 3 lakhs for the purpose.

(2) The need for the distribution of agricultural loans in proportion to the requirements of each taluk and according to the recommendation of taluk committees composed of the Tahsildar, the Agricultural Officer and two non-official members.

(3) Establishment of a few colonies on the lines of the Land Colonisation Scheme in consultation with the Heads of the Agricultural, Forest and Co-operative Departments.

(4) Constitution of a committee to investigate the question of improvement of paddy cultivation in Kuttanad.

(5) The desirability of obtaining expert advice from China and Japan for the development of cottage industries such as pottery, wicker work etc.

(6) Grant of a loan for the establishment of a bone manure factory.

(7) Grant of a bounty to the entrepreneurs in umbrella assembling.

(8) Encouragement of weaving as a cottage industry among the Pulayas and other depressed classes.

These recommendations of the Board are engaging the attention of the Government. At its special meeting, the Board discussed the scheme prepared by Messrs. Brook Bond and Co., Ltd., for developing tea cultivation on a co-operative basis in

Travancore. The Board tentatively approved the general principles of the scheme. The Travancore Economic Journal continued to be published under the supervision of an editorial committee of the Board.

51. The total expenditure during the year on account of the Board was Rs. 4,194 against Rs. 3,095 in 1101.
- Finance.*

#### Joint Stock Companies.

*Registrar.* *Mr. C. Mathan, B. A.,*  
(till 14-7-1102).  
*Mr. K. Venkata Rao*  
(from 14-7-1102).

52. The number of Joint Stock Companies at work at the end of the year was 155 of which 152 societies were limited by shares and 3 limited by guarantee. The majority of these companies, viz., 56, conducted banking and chitty business. Forty societies carried on trading and manufacturing business and 44 were engaged in planting tea, rubber etc. The remaining societies were engaged in diverse business activities such as transit and transport, printing and publishing, engineering, mills and presses. The number of registrations during the year, viz., 28 exceeded that during any year in the past quinquennium. There were 36 companies in liquidation on the rolls at the commencement of the year, of which 8 were finally dissolved during the year. The largest number of joint stock companies worked in the Thiruvella taluk, followed by Kottayam, Ambalapuzha and Trivandrum. Among banking companies, the State Aided bank of Travancore which started business during the year, had the highest paid-up capital, viz., Rs. 2,97,789.

53. The aggregate authorised, subscribed and paid up capital of the 125 companies limited by shares at work at the close of the year were Rs. 4,79,85,050, Rs. 1,66,79,970, and Rs. 1,02,87,798 respectively against Rs. 4,53,85,050, Rs. 1,32,05,433 and

Rs. 84,81,341 respectively at the close of the previous year. There were 23 certified auditors at the end of the year.

54. No Associations were registered during the year. The associations, 20 in number, which were working in the previous year continued their work by way of poor relief as well as social, moral, educational and religious propaganda.

*Associations.*

55. No prosecutions were instituted under the Travancore Companies Regulation during the year, while of the two cases pending disposal at the end of the previous year, one was still under judicial enquiry and the other was withdrawn.

*Prosecutions.*

56. There were at the commencement of the year 64 companies established outside Travancore and having places of business in the State. Six companies, two incorporated in Madras and four in the United Kingdom, opened places of business in the State during the year, while 2 companies ceased to have such places of business. Thus the number of foreign companies having places of business in the State increased from 64 to 68 at the end of the year. Four of these were engaged in banking business, 18 in insurance, 2 in navigation, 1 in railways, 18 in trading and manufacture, 21 in planting, 3 in mining and 1 in missionary work.

*Foreign Companies.*

57. The subjoined statement gives the receipts and expenditure under Joint Stock Companies during the past three years :—

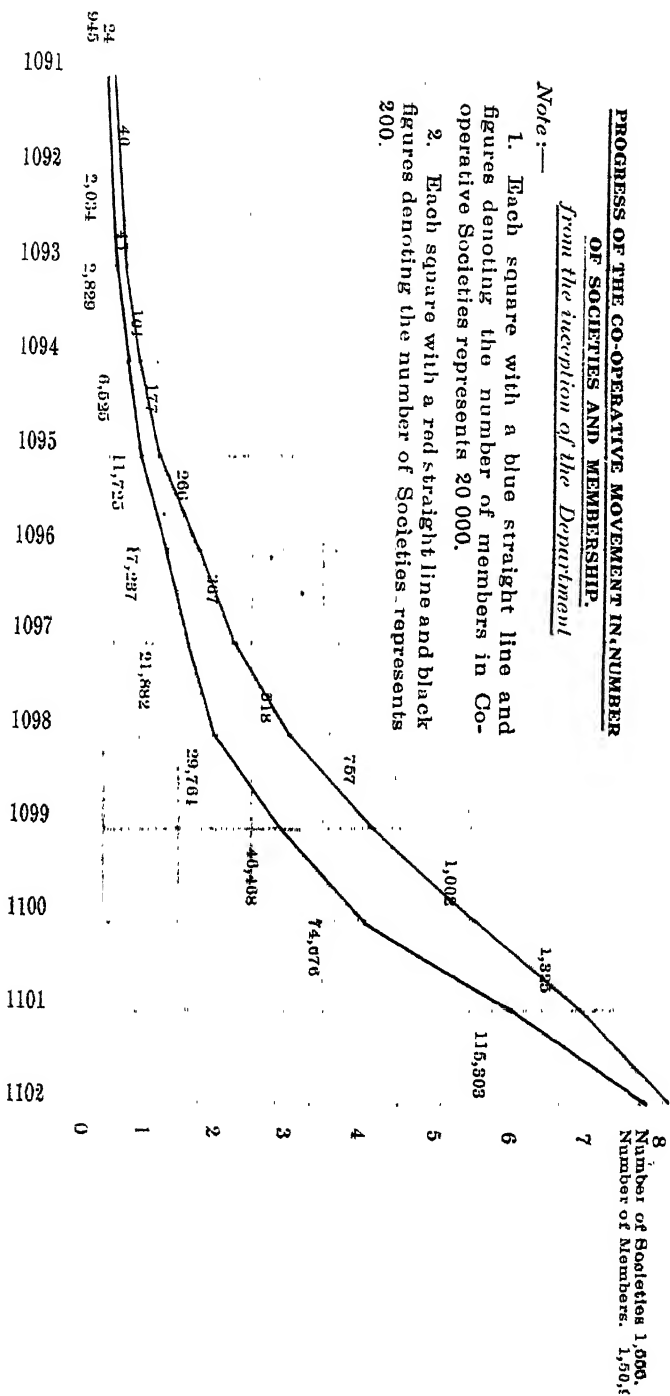
*Receipts and Expenditure.*

	1100.	1101.	1102.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ..	2,837	5,585	7,196
Expenditure ..	6,222	6,523	6,483

**PROGRESS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN, NUMBER  
OF SOCIETIES AND MEMBERSHIP.**

*Note:—*  
*from the inception of the Department*

1. Each square with a blue straight line and figures denoting the number of members in Co-operative Societies represents 20 000.
2. Each square with a red straight line and black figures denoting the number of Societies, represents 200.







The receipts from fees for registering Joint Stock Companies exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 1,611, and there was a surplus of Rs. 713 after meeting the necessary expenditure on account of the Registrar and his office.

#### Co-operative Societies.

*Registrar.* Mr. R. Vaidyalingam Pillai, B. A., B. L.  
*Constitution of Societies.*

58. The number of societies registered during the year was 258. The registration of 28 societies was cancelled. There were therefore at the end of the year 1,555 societies against 1,325 in 1101. Of these one was a central financing bank, one a central institute, one a central weaving society, 25 were supervising unions, 1,250 agricultural societies and 277 non-agricultural societies. The basis of liability was limited in 270 and unlimited in 1,285 societies. The majority of these societies, *viz.*, 1,488, did credit business alone; 32 combined credit with production and sales; 5 did distributive work; 2 encouraged poultry farming; one was an educational society; and one conducts an Ayurvedic dispensary and school. Of the societies registered during the year, 25 had not started work. The number of societies actually at work at the end of the year was therefore only 1,530, or one society for every 2,618 inhabitants. The largest number of societies *viz.*, 208, was in Thiruvellah taluk, followed by Kottayam (113), Mavelikara (105) and Pathanamthitta (86). The number of communal societies rose from 569 to 642 of which 161 were composed of Nairs, 119 of Christians and 119 were for Cheramars. The number of societies for the depressed classes was 222 against 196 in 1101.

59. The number of members increased from 115,303 to 150,932 or by 35,629. This strength represented nearly 4 per cent of the total population. Of the total

*Membership.* number of members, 81 per cent were members of agricultural societies. The average membership per society was 98 against 90 in 1101. An



sum of Rs. 67,514 was proposed to be credited to the fund. The total of the reserve fund was therefore Rs. 2,27,816 against Rs. 1,56,770 at the end of 1101.

63. The loan transactions of all the societies aggregated Rs. 25,85,217. This exceeded the amount for the previous year by Rs. 7,15,309. The purposes of the loans

*Loans.* were cultivation, purchase of cattle, payment of *kist* or *michavaram*, improvement of lands, purchase of raw materials, trade, education, house-building, construction of carts, boats, etc., purchase of land, of foodstuffs and necessities of life, payment of prior debts, of *streedhanam* and other purposes. Amongst the loans for productive purposes the largest amount was for trade, *viz.*, 5.33 lakhs. The expenses of cultivation demanded a loan of Rs. 4.02 lakhs. Amongst non-productive loans, those for payment of prior debts increased from Rs. 4.83 lakhs to Rs. 7.24 lakhs. The proportion of productive to non-productive loans which was 11 to 5 in 1101 was 15 to 8 in the year under report. Loans not exceeding Rs. 50 constituted a little less than half of the entire amount of loans. The largest number of loans was for periods not exceeding one year and they were granted on the joint and several responsibility of the borrower and one or more sureties. There was satisfactory improvement in the collection of principal and interest during the year. The total demand under principal was Rs. 22,94,158 of which a sum of Rs. 17,54,235 was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,39,923. The percentage of balance to demand was 23. A sum of Rs. 2,97,548 represented the total demand under interest. Out of this, the collections amounted to Rs. 2,17,238. The percentage of the balance of interest, Rs. 80,310, to the total demand was 24.

64. The working capital constitutes the resources of the co-operative societies and consists of the share capital, loans, deposits and the reserve fund. The working

*Working Capital.* capital of all societies on the last day of the year increased from Rs. 23,89,392 to Rs. 33,63,200 or by Rs. 9,73,808, *i. e.*, by 40 per cent. This was contributed by agricultural societies, the non-agricultural societies and the Central Bank to the extent of

54 per cent, 28 per cent and 18 per cent respectively. The average working capital per society increased from Rs. 1,803 to Rs. 2,236.

### Working of Societies.

65. The tendency of the Central Co-operative Bank to become an Apex Bank is becoming more and more definite as more taluk banks are constituted for the purpose

*The Central Co-operative Bank.* of advancing loans to primary societies. The number of individual members increased from 278 to 524 and the number of society

members from 448 to 519. The aggregate paid-up share capital rose from Rs. 36,600 to Rs. 43,730. The working capital of the Central Bank increased from Rs. 5,78,209 to Rs. 7,42,134. The fixed and current deposits in the Bank showed steady improvement. They rose from Rs. 3,35,965 to Rs. 4,44,899. Under the Provident Deposit Scheme which was growing in popularity, there were 63 accounts at the end of the year with an aggregate paid-up amount of Rs. 16,357. The reserve fund of societies invested in the Bank amounted to Rs. 52,211 and there was also a supervision fund of Rs. 3,700. Loans to the total value of Rs. 2,73,295 were issued during the year, of which a sum of Rs. 95,435 was to individual members and Rs. 1,77,860 to societies including taluk banks. The out-standings at the end of the year was Rs. 4,84,952 of which Rs. 41,107 were over-due. The collections under principal and interest were satisfactory during the year. The percentage of balance pending collection to the total demand under principal was 22 against 29, while the percentage of balance under interest was 14 against 19 in 1901. The Bank earned a net profit of Rs. 12,169 against Rs. 8,792 in the previous year. The reserve fund of the Bank was Rs. 12,542. The Bank which was held all these years in a rented building, acquired during the year a site and building for its habitation.

66. Like the Central Bank, the taluk banks did business both with individuals and with societies. During the year, the number of taluk banks increased from 13 to

*Taluk Banks.* 14. Loans to societies aggregated Rs. 45,125 and those to individuals Rs. 2,10,014.

Membership consisted of 273 societies and 3,198 individuals.

The total working capital of all the banks was Rs. 2,72,962. The taluk banks had a reserve fund of Rs. 5,184 and earned a net profit of Rs. 11,452.

67. The number of urban banks continued the same as in the previous year, viz., 6. Their membership consisted of 6 societies and 1,308 individuals. They had  
*Urban Banks.* a working capital of Rs. 1,02,820 and a reserve fund of Rs. 6,666. The net profit earned by these banks was 7,086.

68. There were 1,228 agricultural societies working during the year with an aggregate membership of 1,22,649 and a total working capital of Rs. 18,39,009. The  
*Agricultural Societies.* reserve fund to the credit of these societies was Rs. 1,11,069.

69. The number of non-agricultural societies working during the year was 276. They had 27,759  
*Non-Agricultural Societies.* members and a working capital of Rs. 7,82,067. The reserve fund to their credit was 39,733.

70. The number of distributive societies fell from 6 to 5. These societies purchased articles to the value of Rs. 1,11,254 and sold for Rs. 1,20,369. The Trivandrum Co-operative Distributive Society continued to be the premier co-operative store in the State. The society's purchases amounted to Rs. 96,567 and its sales to Rs. 1,06,088. The gross profit earned by all the societies was Rs. 7,799. It is gratifying to note that among rural societies 4 combined distribution with credit and made purchases and sales for Rs. 40,160 and Rs. 40,676 respectively. The gross profit earned by these societies amounted to Rs. 1,086.

71. The societies for depressed and backward classes consisted of 23 societies for Arayas, 42 for Valans, 17 for Coast Fishermen, 119 for Cheramars, and 19 for  
*Societies for Depressed Classes.* Sambavars. These societies had a total membership of 14,042, a working capital of Rs. 87,473, and a reserve fund of Rs. 9,346. The societies earned a net profit of Rs. 5,204.

The majority of the Araya societies were not working efficiently owing to unfavourable conditions for fishing. The Vala societies worked better on account of the attention and assistance rendered to them by the officers of the Fisheries Department. With the appointment of group secretaries, five of whom were sanctioned during the year to help these societies, the condition of societies for the depressed classes is expected to improve substantially.

72. The Travancore Co-operative Institute which was organised in 1100 as a federation of the several local supervising unions, continued to function throughout the year and through its agency, the organisation of non-credit societies was encouraged. The Institute published a Malayalam monthly --the Travancore Co-operative Journal. A subsidy of Rs. 500 was sanctioned by the Government at the end of the year for the conduct of the journal and the journal is expected to become more regular and useful. There were 25 local unions to which 1,471 primary societies were affiliated. The total receipts of the unions including the Government grant of Rs. 5,068 amounted to Rs. 20,161 and the expenditure to Rs. 19,735.

73. There were 18 Honorary Organisers during the year. With the growth of the system of supervising unions, Government resolved at the end of the year that the

*Miscellaneous.* continuance of the system of subsidised Honorary Organisers was superfluous. Government consider that the movement should now progress not in the direction of numerical expansion but by a process of consolidation. The work of the department in co-ordination with the Agricultural, Industrial and Forest departments continued to be satisfactory. The results of the co-ordinated activities of these departments have already been recorded in the previous pages under the respective departments. Distribution, sale and demonstration of improved ploughs, the system of Taungya tea plantations, loans for small industries, improvement of weaving—all these through the instrumentality of co-operative societies were some of the most noteworthy features of such co-ordination. Five societies undertook contract work for the Public Works and Maramat Departments. Chitties, night schools, reading rooms and grant-in-aid schools were conducted

by co-operative societies. Six societies took up lands on lease from members. Sixteen societies purchased cocoanut husks for making raw material for coir yarn. Forty-five societies introduced *Kettuthengu* deposits. There were 36 societies for Government servants, 5 for teachers, 31 for artisans, 4 for municipal and 3 for factory employees. An Ayurveda pharmacy, school and dispensary were conducted by one society. The number of disputes decided by arbitration was 1,321.

74. The cost to Government of working the Co-operative Societies Regulation rose from Rs. 42,244 to Rs. 51,354. The cost worked out to an average of Rs. 32 per

*Cost of Work-* society, the corresponding cost in the  
*ing the Regulation.* Madras Presidency being Rs. 58 in 1925-26. The societies themselves incurred an expenditure of Rs. 82,142 against Rs. 59,392 in the previous year.

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#### Factories.

75. There were 190 factories at the end of the year against 168 in 1101. Of these, 41 were in the Trivandrum Division, 46 in the Quilon Division, 51 in the Kottayam Division and 52 in the Devicolum Division.

*Distribution and classification of* Fifty factories in the Devicolum Division  
*Factories.* were engaged in the manufacture of black

tea, 1 in the manufacture of green tea and 1 in the curing of cardamom. The remaining 136 factories in the other divisions were engaged in the manufacture of soda water, bricks, tiles, coir yarn, coir-matting, tea, rubber, paper, steel goods, furniture, matches, cotton spinning and weaving, extraction of cocoanut oil and minerals, milling rice and husking paddy and in the preparation of dressed palmyra fibre for making brushes. Four of the factories were worked by water power, 34 by gas, 13 by gas and oil, 56 by steam, 18 by oil, 2 by oil and steam, 7 by steam and water, 11 by electricity and 43 by manual labour.



76. The total number of hands employed was 12,322, which includes 1,773 women and 2,166 children. The average daily wages ranged from As. 4 to Rs. 2. The duration of work varied from 8 to 12 hours a day. The District Magistrates and the Medical Officers inspected the factories within their respective jurisdictions. Building accommodation and sanitary arrangements were satisfactory.

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### Patents and Designs.

*Controller.* *Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar, B. A.*

77. Nine patents in respect of the following inventions were sealed during the year:—

(1) Improved cultivating and soil-pan breaking implement.

(2) Improvements in or relating to tea rolling machines.

(3) Improvements in or relating to the recovery of oxalic matter from natural products.

(4) Improvements in Titanium pigments, and process of preparation thereof.

(5) Process, plant and apparatus for the industrial treatment of cocoanuts and their constituents, particularly cocoanut fibres.

(6) Improvements in or relating to cultivating machines.

(7) Improvements in and relating to tractors for cultivating purposes.

(8) Method for the production of rubber goods directly from latex.

(9) Improvements in the reduction of ores, oxides and the like.

Four designs were registered during the year.

The receipts amounted to Rs. 810 against Rs. 1,163 in the previous year and the expenditure to Rs. 300.

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## CHAPTER IX.

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### BUILDINGS, COMMUNICATIONS & IRRIGATION.

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#### Public Works Department.

*Chief Engineer.*      *Rao Bahadur K. V. Natesa Aiyar, B. A.,  
B. E., C. E. (till 11-8-1102).  
Mr. Alfred Vipar, M. I. C. E. (from  
13-9-1102).*

Rao Bahadur K. V. Natesa Aiyar continued to be the Chief Engineer till the 11th Meenam 1102 when he retired from the service. Mr. Alfred Vipar, whose *Personnel.* services were obtained on loan from the Madras Government, succeeded Mr. Natesa Aiyar as Chief Engineer and he assumed charge of his duties on the 13th Medam.

2. The total grant sanctioned for the department for 1102 amounted to Rs. 31,39,022 against Rs. 31,09,036 in the previous year, while the actual expenditure amounted to Rs. 28,51,825. The following statement compares the outlay during the year under report with that for the previous year:—

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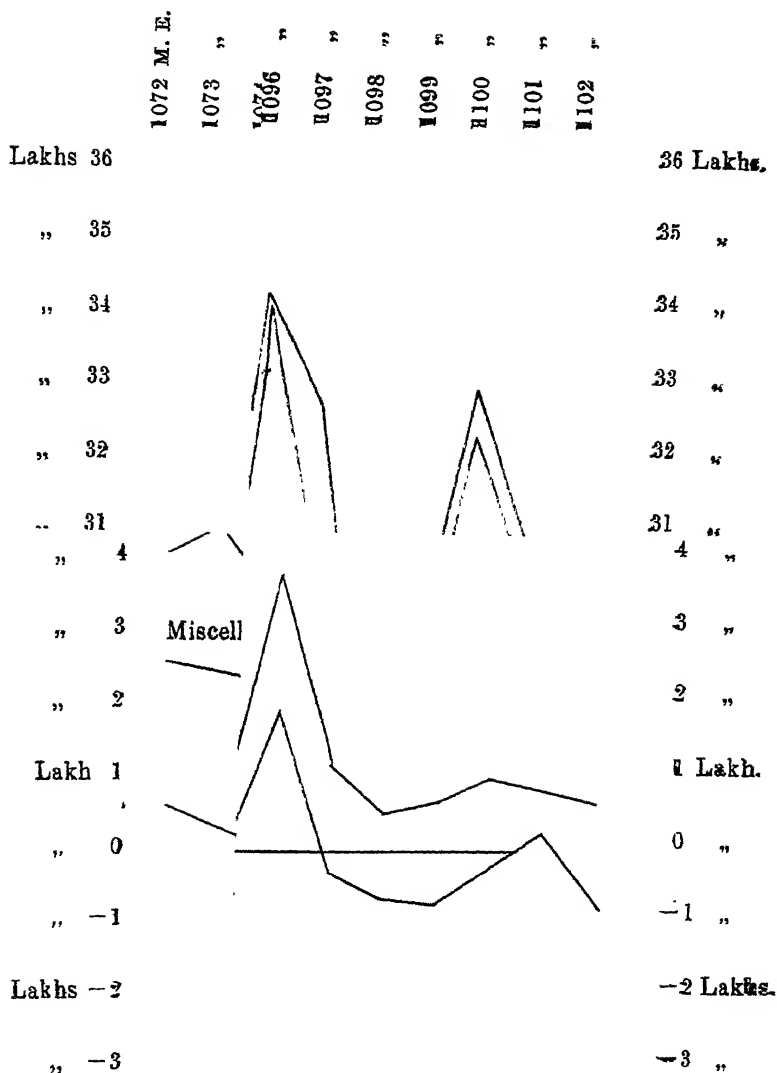
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Service Heads.	Works.		Repairs.		Total	
	1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.
1. Buildings, Roads and Miscellaneous Works	2,20,700	2,30,001	1,35,289	1,44,102	4,31,989	3,74,103
2. Communications	7,80,000	8,90,141	7,03,002	8,37,244	15,77,696	16,83,388
3. Miscellaneous Public Improvements	42,853	30,050	48,500	49,791	91,353	79,841
4. Irrigation-Proposed	1,20,800	72,258	17,844	18,826	1,38,650	91,114
5. Irrigation-Respective	...	...	...	...	...	...
(a) Capital	9,253	11,441	...	...	9,253	11,441
(b) Revenue	98,071	39,037	37,202	53,906	1,55,573	94,033
Total	13,48,557	12,28,041	10,52,527	11,04,950	24,00,814	23,33,003
6. Delhi Palace	79,541	44,027	...	...	79,541	44,027
Total of Works and Repairs	14,27,828	12,72,071	10,52,527	11,04,950	24,80,355	23,77,030
7. Tools and Plant	...	...	...	...	62,024	60,798
8. Establishment	...	...	...	...	4,86,281	4,73,185
Gross Outlay	...	...	...	...	30,26,503	29,20,913
Spence Heads	...	...	...	...	+19,372	+60,068
Deduct from 5 (a) above receipts on Capital Account	...	...	...	...	-44,138	-88,165
Net Outlay of the year	...	...	...	...	30,01,737	28,13,660

3. The importance of good communications and their development has long been realised by the Government of Travancore and special attention was given to the *Communications* matter during the year under review. The total expenditure on communications during the year represented 73 per cent of the gross outlay on works and repairs under all service heads. New roads were opened, traces and foot-paths were converted into roads fit for cart traffic, and improvements and special repairs were carried out to existing roads and bridges. The actual expenditure on communications was Rs. 16,83,388 of which the cost of original construction, improvements and special repairs was Rs. 8,46,140 and that on the up-keep of existing communications Rs. 8,37,244. This exceeded the out-lay in the previous year by Rs. 1,09,692. Of



M. E. 1072

1073

1096

1097

1098

1099

1100

1101

1102

N. ces between adjacent lines.  
nial accounts.



the total expenditure, 32 per cent was in the Kottayam Division, 26 per cent in the Quilon Division, 20 per cent in the Alwaye Division, and 12 per cent in the Trivandrum Division. The outstanding feature of the year was the completion of the road from Alleppey to Shertallai thereby establishing through communication between the Capital of the State and Shertallai which was hitherto accessible only by backwater. The opening of the road in a region, where wheeled-traffic was unknown, evoked a touching display of enthusiasm on the part of the people of Shertallai and considerable motor-traffic has already developed. The unprecedented rapidity with which the road was constructed reflects much credit on the department. The extension of the road from Shertallai to the Cochin frontier is well advanced and is expected to be completed in the current year. The length of communications maintained during the year was:—

	Miles.
Main roads	... 3,054
Village roads	... 1,140
Traces	... 494
Canals	... 216
<hr/>	
Total miles	... 4,904

The total length of communications exceeded that for the previous year by 135 miles. If the area of the State Forests be excluded, there was approximately a little over a mile of communications maintained by Government to every square mile in the State. This does not include navigable backwaters and rivers. The average cost of maintenance per mile was Rs. 486 for metalled roads, Rs. 133 for unmetalled roads, Rs. 21 for village roads, Rs. 23 for traces and Rs. 257 for canals. The highest rates of maintenance grants were in the Kottayam and Trivandrum Divisions for metalled roads and Quilon and Trivandrum Divisions for unmetalled and village roads. Ryots' roads to the extent of 131 miles were taken over for departmental maintenance during the year. The highest cost of maintaining was for the main southern roads, *viz.*, Rs. 1,200 per mile.



4. The total expenditure incurred during the year on bridges and culverts was Rs. 2,31,036. The bridge on the 4th mile,

*Bridges.* Kodanad Road, was completed at a total cost of Rs. 17,618. The bridge from Parur to Vadakkekara, (estimate Rs. 40,750) and the bridges over the Thodupuzha (estimate Rs. 68,000), Meenachil (estimate Rs. 44,200), and Manimala (estimate Rs. 64,000) rivers and at Vallamkolam (estimate Rs. 64,000) were in course of construction.

5. The total outlay on the construction of buildings during the year was Rs. 2,12,645. This was the lowest on record during the past 7 years. The total expenditure on account of construction and repairs

*Buildings.* was Rs. 3,74,103 against Rs. 4,31,989. This included Military and Anchal works. The outlay on original works was Rs. 2,30,001 and that on repairs Rs. 1,44,102. Excluding Military and Anchal works, the expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,45,180 of which original works cost Rs. 2,08,202 and repairs Rs. 1,36,978. The heaviest expenditure was incurred on educational buildings, viz., Rs. 85,588 or about 25 per cent of the total expenditure. Amongst the important buildings completed or nearing completion during the year may be mentioned the quarters for the revenue staff at Peermade, and the first portion of the new two storeyed building for the Women's College.

6. As already stated in the previous year's report, all the most important buildings and bridges were constructed of reinforced concrete, a method of building which has been carried on during the past 27 years by the Public Works Department with great success and efficiency.

7. The importance of the restoration and efficient upkeep of Protective Irrigation works continued to engage the attention of the Public Works Department. Temporary Supervisors were working to carry out investigation and execution of works as in the previous year. The total outlay during the year on account of these works was Rs. 91,114 against

Rs. 1,38,650 in the previous year. The increase in 1101 was chiefly due to the restoration of the damages caused by the heavy rains and floods in that year and in the year 1099. The improvement of tanks in the Neyyattinkara taluk made good progress. About a dozen tanks in the Trivandrum taluk were also improved. Tanks and channels were also improved in certain taluks of North and Central Travancore. The restoration and repairs of channels and tanks in the Kodayar Project Division entailed an expenditure of Rs. 26,221. The total expenditure under protective irrigation was Rs. 1,52,464 of which a sum of Rs. 72,288 was spent on original works, Rs. 18,826 on maintenance and the balance on establishment, tools, plant etc.

8. The total capital outlay on the Kodayar Irrigation system during the year was Rs. 13,987. The receipts from the sale of tank-beds credited to capital account amounted

*Kodayar Irrigation System.* to Rs. 38,165, the result being a net credit of Rs. 24,178 to capital account.

The gross and net totals up to the end of the year under capital account stood at Rs. 86.11 lakhs and 79.97 lakhs respectively. The gross receipts from the system amounted to Rs. 1,89,751 or a little over 2 per cent on the gross outlay, and the working expenses to Rs. 74,974. The net revenue was therefore Rs. 1,14,777 or 1.4 per cent on the net outlay. A total length of 322 miles of irrigation channels was maintained within the system and the area of assessed land which had the benefit of the Kodayar water was 53,996 acres. The average cost per acre was chuckrams 24-2 (As. 13-6 pies).

9. Eight wells for the Sambavars in Nanjinad were completed by the department during the year. Eighteen wells in non-municipal areas were also taken up and were in various stages of progress. All the incomplete market wells of the previous year and 2 new wells were taken up and completed.

*Wells.*

10. The expenditure on establishment of all classes amounted to Rs. 4,73,185 against Rs. 4,86,284 in 1101. The cost of establishment was 15.66 per cent of the

*Establishment.* gross expenditure including Rs. 99,748 spent for other departments, against 15.65 per cent in the previous year.

### Projects.

11. To offer facilities for the increasing sea-borne trade of Alleppey Port, improvements to the commercial canal at its western end were taken up towards the close

*Western Outlet Road.* of the year. After the destruction of a part of the western outlet road, Munnar became again inaccessible from the plains on the

west. To remove this defect and to draw traffic from the planting district in the High Range which now passes into British India as well as to open up for cultivation the fertile region through which the road will pass, the Government sanctioned the investigation of a line of road from Kothamangalam to Munnar *via* Neriamangalam, Munnankandom and Pallivasal. The investigation was completed and the construction of the new road has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 7 lakhs.

12. Another project was the scheme sanctioned for the supply of water to the Trivandrum Town. This is the most important single project undertaken since the

*Trivandrum Water Supply.* completion of the Kodayar Irrigation Scheme.

The scheme was prepared in consultation with Mr. J. W. Madeley, Consulting Engineer, Madras. The necessary field work and preparation of estimates were commenced during the year by a special staff appointed for the purpose. A sum of Rs. 6½ lakhs has been provided for the scheme in the current year's budget.

13. A third project relates to the supply of electric power to Trivandrum for purposes of street and domestic lighting and provision of fans at an estimated cost of

*Trivandrum Electric Supply.* Rs. 2½ lakhs. A provision of Rs. 1½ lakhs has been made in the current year's budget for the scheme.

14. The design and estimates for the construction of a pier at Quilon Port have been prepared and are under the consideration of Government.

15. The extension of the Government telephone system at Trivandrum has been taken in hand and connections will be made available for the general public.

*Trivandrum Telephone System.*

16. An arrangement has been negotiated with the British Indian Government for the laying of a Trunk Telephone line between Alleppey and Cochin mainly for the convenience of mercantile and shipping interests. The Travancore Government has reserved the right to take over and manage the line after 15 years; and meanwhile they share in the gross receipts from connections within the State and receive special terms for Government connections.

17. The total amount collected from all sources was Rs. 3,87,663. This was Rs. 78,864 more than in any previous year. Of this amount, Rs. 2,53,488 was *Revenue Receipts*. realised from tolls on roads and bridges, Rs. 64,627 from the working of the Public Canals and Ferries Regulation and Rs. 27,158 from sale of produce. The receipts under the above three items covered over 41 per cent of the grant for maintenance of communications during the year.

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#### Maramat Department.

*Maramat Engineer.* Mr. O. S. Ramaswami Aiyar,  
B. A., B. E., C. E.

18. The scope of the Maramat Department is restricted to work connected with Devaswoms (religious institutions), oottupurahs (feeding houses), satroms (rest houses), other charitable institutions and palaces. The department also exercises technical supervision over the Palace Panivagai (Works) Department.

19. The Government Maramat works had a total grant of Rs. 1,32,315 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,09,962. The major portion of the expenditure was on improvements effected in several palaces outside Trivandrum. Improvements were also effected to several Satroms, Oottupurahs and other buildings.

20. The total grant for the Devaswom Maramat works was Rs. 2,80,000 and the outlay was Rs. 2,75,205. The major Devaswom works cost Rs. 1,95,329 and the balance was spent on minor Devaswom works. The work of renovation and improvement of several important Devaswoms was successfully carried out.

21. In addition to the Maramat works proper and Devaswom Maramat works, the department had to attend to the works in connection with the Thirumadampu of His Highness the Maha Raja and to several miscellaneous works in connection with the tours of the members of the Ruling Family. Works were also carried out for the Melkanganom and the Sreepadom and paid for directly from the respective funds.

22. The total expenditure on Public Works amounted to Rs. 30,08,288 of which the expenditure under Public Works was Rs. 28,13,660 and that under Maramat was Rs. 1,94,628. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 32,25,708, Rs. 30,04,796 and Rs. 2,20,921 respectively.

#### Railways.

*Railway Engineer and Adviser to  
Government on Railways.*

*Mr. G. Marini.*

23. The field work of the projected Quilon-Ernakulam railway was completed during the year and the plans and estimates were under preparation. The reconnaissance survey of the coast line from Mavelikara to Cochin via Alleppey, was started during the year and the first part from Mavelikara to the coast which was a detailed traverse survey was completed. Arrangements were also made with a view to the Tripunithura-Muvattupuzha-Neriamangalom survey being taken in hand at the beginning of

the current year. This survey has been given precedence over the Ettumanur-Mundakayam branch as the Railway Board have surveyed a connected line from Valparai on the Annamalais to Thattakad. This line together with the new projected road from Neriamangalom to Pallivasal, will place the High Range planting district in direct and rapid communication with the Port of Cochin. The plans and estimate for the extension of the railway from Chakai to Thambanur were completed, and the work has been sanctioned. The construction of this extension will be carried out by the State under the direction of the Railway Engineer, and the line when completed will be worked by the South Indian Railway Company as part of the Travancore Railway under the existing contract.

24. The working of the existing railway from Shencottah to Trivandrum brought in a net income of Rs. 2,19,055 against Rs. 1,65,817 in 1101. The total of capital expenditure not charged to revenue during the year on account of railways was Rs. 67,642.

*Receipts and  
Expenditure.*

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#### **Anchal. (State Post Office)**

*Superintendent.*

*Mr. K. Venkata Rao*  
(till 14-7-1102).

*Mr. C. K. Nagam Pillai, B. A.*  
(from 14-7-1102).

25. The number of Anchal offices at the commencement of the year was 250. Fifteen non-departmental offices were newly opened and three were abolished. There were thus at the end of the year 262 Anchal offices of which 178 were departmental and 84 were non-departmental offices. There were at the end of the previous year 389 letter boxes. Twenty six were added and 11 were abolished. Thus the number of letter boxes at the end of the year was 404.

*Anchal Offices  
and Letter Boxes.*

26. The total length of Anchal Mail lines at the end of the year was 1,342 miles or 49 miles more than in the previous year. Of this length, the railway service

*Mail Lines.* for the transport of mails covered 110 miles, motor service 198 miles, and runner service 1,033 miles. Motor Vans are used for the service of the following lines:—

- (i) Trivandrum-Nagercoil.
- (ii) Quilon-Alleppey.
- (iii) Kottarakara-Kottayam.
- (iv) Kottayam-Parur.
- (v) Kottayam-Mundakayam.
- (vi) Mundakayam-Kumili.
- (vii) Trivandrum Town-Trivandrum Railway Station.

27. The total number of covers posted was 19,080,093. This was 2,67,047 covers more than that for the previous year.

*Covers Posted.* This was the result of an increase of private and official covers and a decrease under privileged covers. The number of private covers constituted 79 per cent. of the total number of covers.

28. The number of covers delivered during the year was 19,162,779 against 18,768,793 in 1101. This gives an average of 34,665 covers to each delivery peon against the previous year's average of 34,565 covers, or 95 covers for a single peon per diem against 94 covers in 1101. Including

*Delivery of Covers.* those in transmission or pending delivery at the end of the previous year and the number posted during the year for delivery in Travancore and those received from Cochin, the total number of articles for disposal was 19,854,986 of which 99.59 per cent were disposed of during the year.

29. The total number of value payable articles handled by the department during the year was 91,824 of which 64,041 were delivered and 26,942 were refused

*Value Payable and Insured Articles.* and returned to the senders, leaving a balance of 841 articles at the end of the year. The number of insured articles issued was 168 of which 165 were delivered during the year and 3 issued at the end of the year were delivered since the close of the year.

30. Hundi business was transacted in all the 262 Anchal offices. The total number of hundies issued during the year was 341,304 for Rs. 45,29,268. There was

*Hundies issued and paid.* therefore an increase of 7,172 hundies for Rs. 1,09,461 over that for the previous year. The total number of hundies for delivery in 1102 was 335,823 of which 332,906 were delivered in Travancore and 341 were redirected to Cochin for payment, leaving a balance of 2,576 hundies pending payment at the end of the year. Travancore hundies for Rs. 2,20,164 were paid in Cochin and Cochin hundies for Rs. 96,741 were paid in Travancore. There were also 7,695 revenue hundies for Rs. 45,778 which gives an increase of 79 hundies for Rs. 125 over the figures for 1101. The number of Government revenue remittance hundies however fell from 635 to 629 although the value of these remittances rose from Rs. 43,429 to Rs. 51,283.

31. There were 85 Anchal offices where Savings Bank work was carried on during the year, against 82 offices in 1101.

The deposits during the year amounted to *Savings Bank.* Rs. 35,40,096 and the withdrawals to Rs. 35,09,182. The corresponding amounts in the previous year were Rs. 34,49,734 and Rs. 31,42,021 respectively.

32. The number of articles received in the Dead Letter Office increased from 47,978 to 48,795. Of these, 19,401 were redirected to the parties concerned, 24,672

*Dead Letter Office.* were destroyed and 4,722 were finally disposed of as dead.

33. The total number of complaints during the year was 447 of which 424 were disposed of leaving 23 under investigation.

Of the complaints disposed of, 158 ended *Miscellaneous.* in the punishment of the subordinates concerned and the balance 266 were found to be groundless. Two subordinates were dismissed from service, 19 were placed under suspension, the services of 12 were dispensed with and several fined. The several Anchal offices disposed of by sale 23,402 small packets of quinine.



34. The receipts and expenditure of the Anchal Department for the past three years are shown below :—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	... 3,25,912	3,33,741	3,49,762
Expenditure	.. 3,07,553	3,21,652	3,11,067

The receipts of the department rose by Rs. 16,021 while the working expenses fell by Rs. 10,585. Thus the net receipts of the department rose from Rs. 12,089 to Rs. 38,695.

The steady development of business in the Anchal, its increasing efficiency and its growing popularity as well as the sound financial results shown call for note.

## CHAPTER X.

### COMMERCE.

#### Trade.

The approximate total value of external trade was  $17\frac{1}{2}$  crores of rupees or  $1\frac{1}{2}$  crores of rupees more than that for the previous year. The value of exports was about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  crores of rupees or 65 per cent, and of imports 6 crores of rupees or 35 per cent of the total value of trade, the percentages in 1101 being 63 and 37 respectively.

*Total value of Trade.*

2. Of the external trade, 32·02 per cent was carried by sea, 35·77 by backwater, 21·81 by land and 10·40 by railway, against 28·75, 39·40, 21·57 and 10·28 respectively in 1101.

*Trade Routes.*

3. A comparison of the quantities of articles imported during the year with those imported in the previous year shows that there was a fall in the imports of snuff, glass-ware, paddy, rice, rubber, salt and umbrellas and that there was a noticeable rise in the imports of tobacco, cotton goods, coffee, foreign liquor, gingelly oil, hardware, kerosene oil, motor cars and accessories, sugar and piece-goods. With regard to exports, there was improvement in the exports of cocoanuts, coir, coir mats and coir mattings, punnac, arecanut, cocoanut oil, laurel oil, lemon grass oil, fish, jaggery, timber, ginger, prawns, pepper, cardamoms, cashewnuts and rubber. Slight decreases were recorded under copra, cocoanut husk, tapioca, hides, molasses and tea. The *per capita* value of the imports was Bh. Rs. 15·4; of the exports Bh. Rs. 28·4 and of the total trade Bh. Rs. 43·8,

*Imports and Exports.*

against Bh. Rs. 14·8, Bh. Rs. 25·6 and Bh. Rs. 40·4 respectively in 1101. The approximate value of the trade in the produce of the cocoanut tree, *viz.*, over three crores of rupees, the duty on which alone represented 53·5 per cent of the collections from dutiable exports, exceeded that of the previous year by a little over Bh. Rs. 3 lakhs. The total value of rice and paddy imported during the year was nearly 2 crores of rupees or about 38 lakhs of rupees less than that of the previous year. The decrease was probably indicative of the better production of food-grains in the State during the year. The total value of the exports in tea was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  crores and of rubber nearly 1 crore of rupees.

4. Of the entire trade, 86·29 per cent was with British India, 4·54 with the United Kingdom, 2·96 with America, 2·64 with Ceylon, ·08 with Pondicherry and Marseilles and 3·49 with other countries.

*Direction of Trade.*

### Ports.

*Principal Port Officer.*

*Capt. G. Leverett.*

5. The Marine Department attends to the working of the following statutory enactments:—

- (i) The Ports Regulation, I of 1094;
- (ii) The Native Passenger Ships Regulation, I of 1050;
- (iii) The Registration of Ships Regulation, II of 1095; and
- (iv) The Public Canals and Ferries Regulation, VI of 1096, so far as testing the fitness of steam vessels navigating inland water-ways is concerned. The department also controls the shipping and the boats plying within ports, attends to the lights maintained by Government at the ports and at the important navigation centres of Aryad and Pallom in the backwaters and advises Government in marine matters generally.

6. The weather was on the whole very favourable for shipping. There were no storms or cyclones on the Travancore coast beyond rain brought on by the monsoons.

*Weather.*

7. Shipping was brisk throughout the year with a few breaks during the month of June owing to unsettled and rainy weather. The subjoined statement gives details:—

*Shipping.*

Ports.	No. of Steamers.		No. of country craft.		Tonnage.	
	1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.	1101.	1102.
Alleppey	269	307	25	41	623,772	714,896
Quilon	10	15	52	108	36,454	55,550
Trivandrum	16	20	2	..	50,606	61,315
Colachel	15	12	22	21	40,755	42,095
Total	310	354	101	170	760,587	873,856

8. The steam derricks installed on the pier in the previous year did good work during the year. There were 65 trollies in working order at the close of the year. The mud bank of the port, which gave perfectly smooth water for shipping and which enabled steamers to call at the port even during the monsoon, continued in position. A few light draft steamers anchored on the bank. During the monsoon months, 30 steamers called at the port against 23 in the previous year and only on 15 days was there no steamer in port during this period.

*Alleppey Port.*

9. The construction of a jetty or pier at Quilon and of boat basins for canal craft and lighters at Alleppey and the feasibility of improving landing and shipping facilities at Colachel are some of the important questions relating to ports which are engaging the attention of Government.

*Miscellaneous.*

10. The receipts and expenditure under ports during the past *Receipts and* three years are detailed below :—  
*Expenditure.*

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	40,844	48,727	51,654
Expenditure ...	27,862	26,509	32,042

Both the receipts and expenditure increased by Rs. 2,927 and Rs. 5,533 respectively. The net receipts thus fell from Rs. 22,218 to Rs. 19,612.

## CHAPTER XI.

### MEDICAL RELIEF & VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Medical Department.

#### MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD, MEDICAL SERVICES.

<i>Inspecting Medical Officer.</i>	<i>Dr. K. Raman Tampi, B. A., (Madras), M. D., D. T. M. H. (Edin.), L. M. (Dublin), M. O. S. F. R. S. M. (London).</i>
<i>Senior Surgeon, Women's Medical Service.</i>	<i>Mrs. M. Poonen Lukose, B. A., (Madras), M. B. B. S. (Lon- don), L. M., (Rotunda).</i>
<i>Non-official Member.</i>	<i>Dr. W. A. Noble, M. D. (till 22-4-1927). Dr. A. C. Rendle, M. D. (from 31-5-1927).</i>

The Medical Department continued to be under the control of the Administrative Board, Medical Services. Dr. W. A. Noble held the office of non-official member of the Board until the 22nd April 1927 when he proceeded on furlough. In his place, Dr. A. C. Rendle of the Salvation Army was appointed as non-official member and he assumed charge of his duties on the 31st May 1927. The Board held 45 meetings during the year.

2. The long established policy of the Government has been to see that proper medical aid is placed within the reach of all classes of people. Accordingly, free medical service and a free supply of medicines are placed at the public disposal in all medical institutions maintained by Government and to supplement the activities of the Governmental agency in this direction, a regular system of medical grants-in-aid is also in force.

3. New dispensaries were opened during the year at Piravom, Valiathura and Ramapuram and the temporary fever dispensary at Perumkadavila was made a permanent and full-time institution. In all these places, the local people readily came forward and gave the requisite furniture and suitable buildings for the dispensary. With similar co-operation of the public, Government have sanctioned since the close of the year the establishment of new dispensaries at Kuruvilangad, Pampadi, Kalavoor, Vizhinjam, Varkalai and Ayikudi. An evening dispensary at Karupanpadi and a bi-weekly dispensary at Malaya-tur have also been sanctioned. The number of Government medical institutions actually working at the end of the year was 73 and the number of grant-in-aid medical institutions was 18. The corresponding figures for 1101 were 67 and 17 respectively. The number of Surgeons and Deputy Surgeons in the State service was the same as in the previous year, viz., 4 and 17 respectively. Amongst the officers of the department, there are 9 who hold European degrees or diplomas and 54 who hold Indian University degrees. The number of women medical officers in the service is 15 of whom 2 hold European degrees and 2 Indian University degrees.

4. The total number of patients treated in Government and aided institutions together was 1,536,399 of whom 1,501,298 were out-patients and 35,101 were in-patients. The corresponding figures for 1101 were 1,385,490; 1,353,799; and 31,691 respectively. The daily average of in-patients was 73 and that of out-patients 517. The number of in-patients treated in Government institutions rose from 25,713 to 28,311 and that of out-patients from 1,206,042 to 1,337,221. The Fort Hospital, Trivandrum, had a daily average of 397 out-patients, while the General Hospital, Trivandrum, had a daily average of 298. The Alleppey Hospital was third with an average of 285. The total number of surgical operations in Government institutions fell from 58,466 to 49,984. The decrease was due to the fresh classification of these operations introduced during the year according to which trivial operations were excluded from the list. The

accommodation provided for in-patients in all the institutions together was 2,257 or an increase of 33 beds over the number for the previous year. The percentage of mortality to in-patients fell from 4 to 3. The comparative cost to Government during the year of treating a patient throughout his illness was chuckrams 12 and cash 15 (As. 7-pies 3·16) against chuckrams 12 and cash 11 (As. 7-pies 3·47) in 1101. The cost to Government of diets with reference to in-patients alone was Rs. 2-18-6 against Rs. 2-18-3 in 1101.

5. The department devoted considerable attention to the treatment and care of expectant mothers and of infants. The midwives in the several hospitals and  
*Child Welfare.* dispensaries continued to do more health and welfare work by a system of house to house visiting, by proper instruction in antenatal cases and by tending new-born children. A class for training midwives for health and welfare work in rural areas was opened in the district hospital at Alleppey. The course is for one year. The class opened in the Victoria Hospital at Quilon for the training of 8 stipendiary and 6 non-stipendiary students entered on its second year course. There were 75 midwives in the department against 69 in 1101. The total number of labour and gynaecological cases which were attended to by the midwives was 7,794 or an average of 105 cases for each midwife. It is gratifying to note that the services of trained midwives are being requisitioned even in remote villages.

6. Efficient nursing in the State hospitals was introduced in 1906 by the employment of 8 European Roman Catholic Sisters of the Holy Cross. The good work done by  
*Nursing Staff.* these Sisters resulted in the gradual increase in their numerical strength. There were at the end of the year 24 European Sisters working in five hospitals in the State. As the demand for good nursing increased, the Government opened nursing classes to train Indian nurses. Two batches of 25 Indian nurses have already been trained and entertained in the department. The third batch was undergoing training during the year,



7. The dispensary treatment of leprosy was continued in the hospitals at Kayankulam, Karunagapally and Chavara where the incidence of the disease is very high. This *Dispensary Treatment of Leprosy.* mode of treatment is found to be very useful in the early stages of the disease. Special methods of treatment were also tried with success in the hospital for lepers at Trivandrum. The question of starting another leper settlement where lepers may get suitable accommodation and treatment is engaging the attention of the Board.

8. The statistics of diseases indicate the steady increase in the number of people suffering from tuberculosis. The question of opening a sanatorium where early cases may be satisfactorily treated and where the people may be educated in the infectivity of the disease and in the methods of prevention, is engaging the attention of the Board. In the meantime, suitable dispensary treatment for tuberculosis is being carried on in Trivandrum, Quilon, Alleppey, Kottayam and Nagercoil.

9. Besides leprosy and tuberculosis, the chief diseases which claim a heavy toll of casualties every year in the State, are malaria, dysentery, typhoid, hook-worm and elephantiasis. It is gratifying to note that the special attention of the Board has been drawn to the prevalence of these diseases and the Board is earnestly considering ways and means for their prevention and cure.

10. There were 409 medico-legal cases and 62 pathological cases in which post-mortem examinations were conducted.

#### Special Institutions.

11. The number of in-patients in the General Hospital, Trivandrum, rose from 4,002 to 4,161 and that of out-patients fell from 45,150 to 40,657. The number of surgical operations, both major and minor, increased from 2,036 to 2,237. The general mortality among in-patients excluding deaths from operations was 156, i. e., 3.75 per cent against

158 or 3·95 per cent in 1101. Mortality among operated cases fell from 14 to 13, or from ·68 per cent to ·58 per cent. Towards the close of the year, the fitting of the special department of electro-therapeutics was undertaken and the department has started work in the new year. Electric lighting has also been installed in the hospital.

12. The number of in-patients increased by 156 and that of out-patients decreased by 4. The number of major operations performed increased by 26. The total number of labour cases was less than that for the previous year by 53. The general mortality among in-patients excluding deaths from operations was 56 or 1·3 per cent against 65 or 1·2 per cent in 1101. The percentage of mortality among obstetric cases was 1·6 per cent against ·5 per cent in 1101. There was no mortality among gynaecological cases, although the percentage of mortality among such operated cases was ·6.

13. The total number of in and out-patients increased by 304 and 10,416 respectively. The average daily attendance of out-patients was 224 and of in-patients 79.

*Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum.* The number of midwifery cases decreased by 73. There were 187 major obstetric operations and 270 major gynaecological operations during the year. The total number of operations, major and minor, rose from 727 to 1,031.

14. The number of in-patients, out-patients and the number of operations were on the increase during the year. The average attendance of in-patients was 51 and of in and out-patients together was 105. There was no case of mortality in the institution.

*Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum.* The system of training medical officers who were interested in Ophthalmology was continued during the year with satisfactory results.

15. This institution is one which receives special attention from the Government. There were at the commencement of the year 193 lepers and 2 untainted children.

*Hospital for Lepers, Trivandrum.* The admissions during the year were 342 and 315 were discharged. The strength of the inmates of the institution at the end of the year consisted of 220 lepers and 2 untainted children. As a result of the new methods of treatment followed during the year, 158 cases improved and 154 were discharged. There were 23 cases of death mainly from Bright's disease and alimentary troubles. The appointment of Sisters of the Holy Cross for the nursing of lepers has been fruitful of satisfactory results. A foot-ball club was started by way of recreation for the lepers. The average cost to Government per annum on account of diet per in-patient was about Rs. 74½. This does not include the cost of luxuries supplied, viz., tobacco, betel, arecanuts, beedies, cocoanut and gingelly oil for bath, and fish.

16. The number of in-patients in the Hospital for Mental Diseases, Trivandrum, which was 138 at the beginning of the year, was reduced to 131 at the

*Hospital for Mental Diseases, Trivandrum.* end of the year as a result of 32 patients being admitted and 39 discharged in the course of the year. The inmates engaged themselves in industries such as mat-making, jamakals and towel-weaving and worked in the garden. They were also permitted the recreation of foot-ball within the grounds and under proper supervision. To this institution also the Government devote special care.

17. The laboratory continued to do good work. The volume of work increased in important directions such as cultural examinations, bacteriological analysis of water,

*Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory.* antirabic treatment, and preparation of prophylactic vaccines. The laboratory examined 62 samples of water from the Aruvikara river from which the water required for the town of Trivandrum is proposed to be supplied,

On the average, 300 cases of mad dog bites were treated every year in the laboratory. The receipts from the laboratory for examination of specimens and preparation of vaccines amounted to Rs. 574.

18. The receipts and expenditure of the Medical Department during the past three years are :—  
*Receipts and Expenditure.*

		1100	1101	1102
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts.	...	9,437	8,770	9,129
Expenditure	Salaries	2,11,399	2,20,837	2,33,685
	Establishment	1,14,716	1,17,591	1,24,870
	Allowances	13,144	15,674	15,895
	Supplies & Contingencies	3,34,982	3,20,225	4,23,001
	Grants, etc.	18,439	20,995	19,999
Total		6,92,680	6,95,322	8,17,450

While the receipts of the department increased by the nominal sum of Rs. 359, the expenditure increased by Rs. 1,22,128. This was due to the opening of new dispensaries during the year, to larger purchases of medicines, and increased expenditure on account of diet and miscellaneous charges.

#### Department of Ayurveda

*Director.* Mr. K. Sankara Menon, M. A., L. T.

19. The Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary which was opened in Trivandrum exactly a decade ago has become a very popular institution and has encouraged private Ayurvedic practitioners to start similar hospitals for purposes of treatment and clinics. Such vaidyasalas are encouraged by Government by a system

of grants-in-aid. The number of grant-in-aid vaidyasalas at the end of the year rose from 102 to 113 including one Unani Vaidyasala. The Ayurveda Pharmacy continued to supply the medicines required for the Ayurveda Hospital and Dispensary.

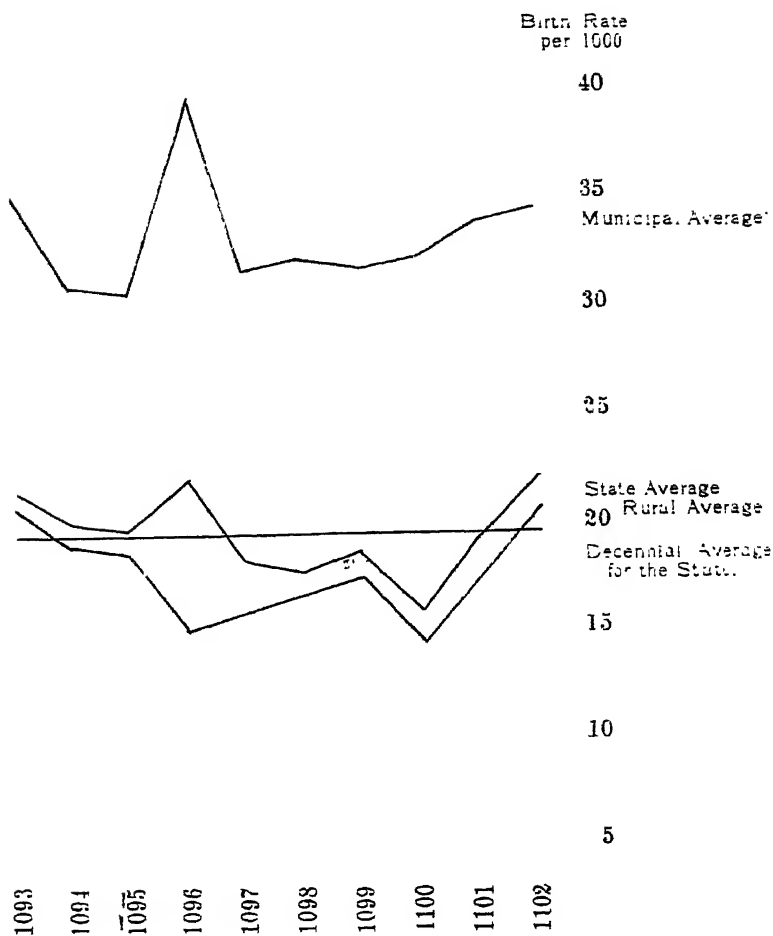
20. The number of in and out-patients treated in the Ayurveda Hospital rose from 132 and 30,130 to 139 and 34,690 respectively. The average daily

*Relief.* attendance also rose from 215 to 252. The specialist appointed in the hospital to treat dislocation of bones and fractures by massage treated successfully 483 cases. The number of beds remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 8. Of the in-patients treated, 115 were cured, 14 relieved, 2 died and 8 were undergoing treatment. The average daily cost of dieting per in-patient was As. 4-pies 3 against As. 4-pies 4 in 1101. The total number of patients treated by the grant-in-aid vaidyasalas also rose from 279,908 to 317,836. Of these 95 per cent were cured, 4 per cent died and the rest were either discharged or were undergoing treatment.

21. Besides the Ayurveda College at Trivandrum which was the only institution of the kind maintained by Government, there were 4 private aided Ayurveda High Schools in different parts of the State. *Ayurveda Educational Institutions.* The strength of the College rose from 104 to 134 of whom 17 were women students.

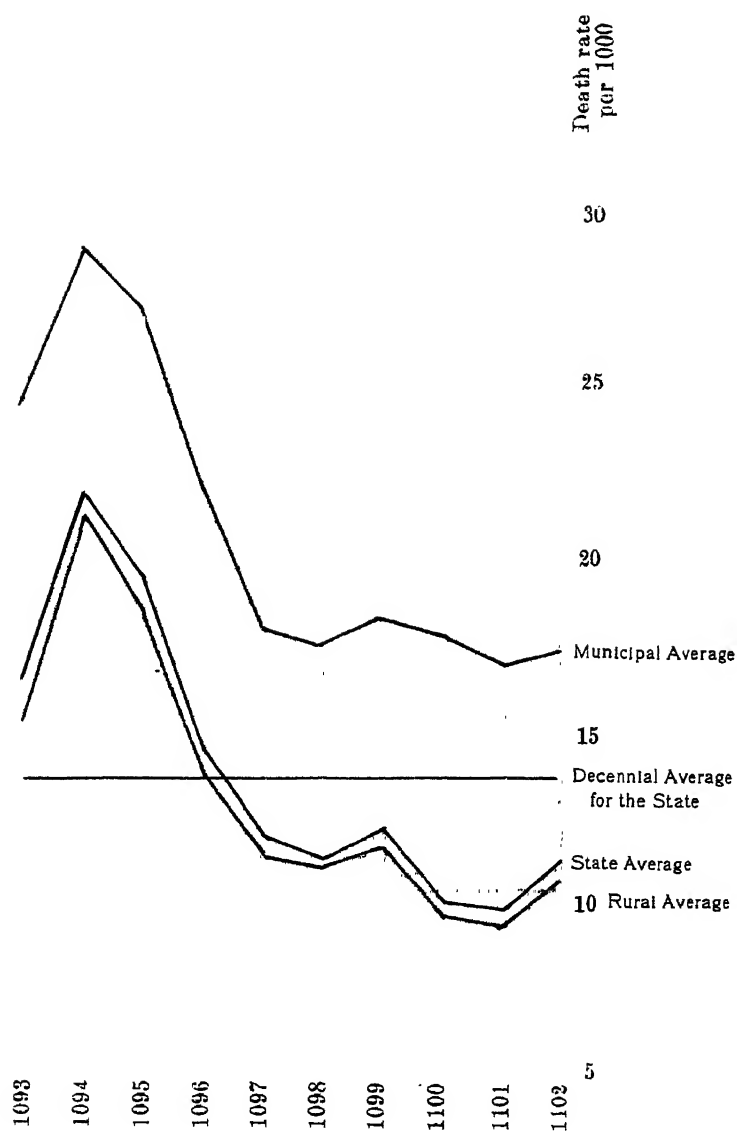
The total number of students in the private schools was 179. One of the members of the college staff appeared for the Ayurveda Acharya examination for specialising in the treatment of leprosy and he was the first successful candidate since the examination was instituted four years ago. Fourteen students from the College and 4 private students passed the Vaidya Kalanidhi examination. In the Vaidya Sastri examination, 8 students of the College, 24 from Ayurveda High Schools and 2 private candidates came out successful. Four private candidates passed the Visha Vaidya Visarada examination, (poison treatment, mainly snake bite).

# BIRTH RATE IN TRAVANCORE.





# DEATH RATE. 'IN TRAVANCORE.







22. The receipts and expenditure of the Ayurveda Department during the past three years are shown

*Receipts and Expenditure.* below:—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	5,921	5,367	5,633
Expenditure ...	51,352	55,037	58,958

The net expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 49,670 to Rs. 53,325.

#### Vital Statistics.

*Sanitary Commissioner.* Mr. J. J. Chandy, L. M. S.

23. The Sanitary Department represents the public health department under Government. The activities of the department

*Work of the Sanitary Department.* are at present directed to the collection, registration and tabulation of vital statistics, the management of vaccination in the non-municipal areas both rural and urban and to rural sanitation.

24. The registration of vital statistics continued to be compulsory throughout the State; but the accuracy of the figures is

*Births and Deaths.* open to doubt in view of phenomenal variations disclosed from year to year. The total number of births registered during the year was 85,814 consisting of 44,313 males and 41,501 females. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 74,834 ; 39,158; and 35,676. The birth rate was 21 per 1,000 of the census population against 19 in 1101. For every 100 female births, the male births numbered 107. The total number of deaths was 42,994, comprising 22,163 males and 20,831 females against 36,963 made up of 19,634 males and

17,329 females in the previous year. The death rate was thus 11 per mille of the population against 9 in 1101. For every 100 females who died, there were 106 male deaths. The number of infantile deaths was 7,075 giving a ratio of 82 per mille of registered live births against 75 in the previous year. The net result was that the population of the State increased by 42,820 of which Hindus contributed 53 per cent, Christians 38 per cent and Mahomedans 5 per cent.

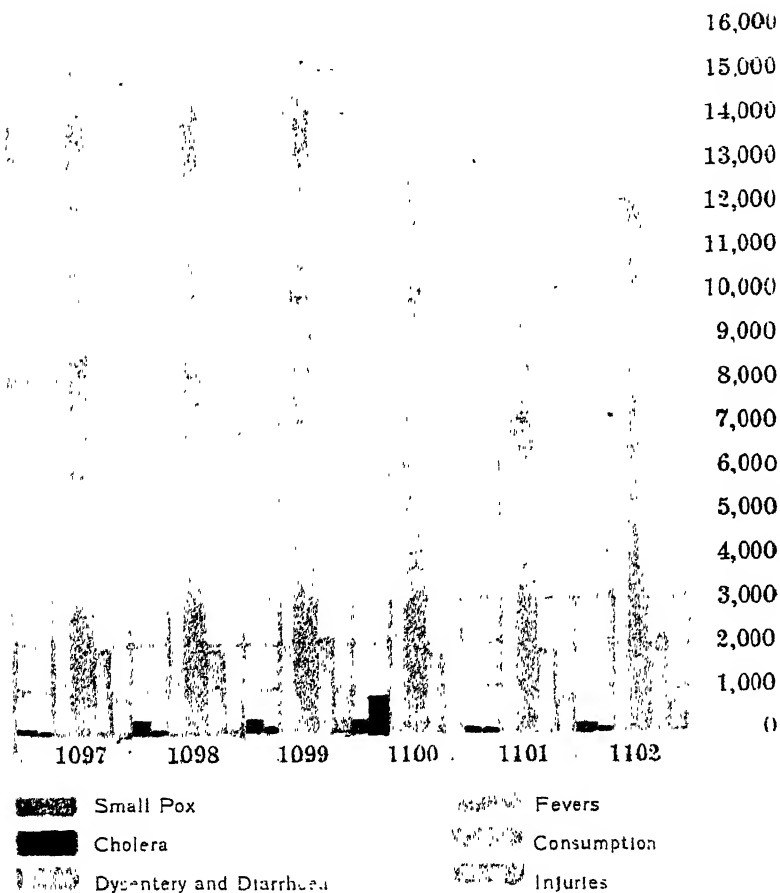
25. Vaccination is not compulsory in the State, except in the municipal towns. The total number of operations performed during the year increased from 232,484 to

*Vaccination.* 257,033. Of these, 221,337 were primary and 35,696 re-vaccinations. The percentage of success in primary vaccinations was 98 against 97 in 1101. The percentage of re-vaccinations to total operations was 14. The number of infants successfully vaccinated rose from 16,383 to 20,720. Each vaccinator had, on an average, performed 169 vaccinations against 150 the minimum. The Sanitary Circle Officers verified 61,912 cases against 51,417 cases in 1101. Each Sanitary Circle Officer had verified on an average 643 cases per month against 500, the minimum. The lymph issued from the Vaccine Depot was the glycerine lymph. The amount of this lymph manufactured was 198,966 grains. The average cost was chuckrams 6 and cash 3 (As. 3-pies 6) per case of successful vaccination while the cost in Madras was As. 6-2.

26. Important rural places are provided with a conservancy staff for keeping these places in a sanitary condition. The conservancy overseers in charge of these places

*Rural Sanitation.* conduct vaccination in addition to the work of sanitation. There were 41 such conservancy stations at the close of the year against 25 in 1101. Eight more stations were started since the close of the year. Sanitary arrangements were made for 26 fairs and festivals. The Sanitary Officers inspected 183 markets during the year with a view to suggest to the Land Revenue Department, which controls these markets, methods whereby the markets may be maintained in thorough sanitary condition,

# NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES.





27. Cholera and smallpox are the two epidemics which usually visit the State and which engage the energies of the department. There was no serious outbreak

*Epidemics.* of these epidemics during the year. The number of deaths from cholera was 21 and that from smallpox 69. Prompt and effective measures both preventive and curative were adopted at the very outset of this feeble epidemic and hence the diseases speedily subsided. The outbreak of plague in the frontier British villages of Cumbhom and Uthamapalayam necessitated the establishment of two observation stations, one at Kumili and the other at Cumbhommettu through which persons and goods from the infected areas crossed into Travancore territory. There was no case of plague in the State till the end of the year as a result of the preventive measures effectively carried out in the observation stations.

28. There was an increase in the number of deaths from fevers, the ratio being 3.39 against 2.74 in 1101. The ratio of deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea was

*Other Diseases.* 1.94 against 1.69 in 1101. Diabetes and carbuncle claimed 1,510 deaths and respiratory diseases 5,914 deaths.

29. A class for the training of students for the Travancore Vaccination and Sanitary Test was held in

*Vaccination and Sanitary Class.* the Vaccine Depot. Twenty students were trained and of these 19 passed.

30. The receipts and expenditure of the Sanitary Department during the past three years are detailed

*Receipts and Expenditure.* below:—

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	3,197	3,299	3,613
Expenditure ...	94,265	94,717	95,203

The net expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 91,418 to Rs. 91,590 or by Rs. 172 only.

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#### Chemical Examiner's Department.

*Chemical Examiner.* Mr. A. M. Jacob, B. A., M. B. C. M.

31. The number of articles received for toxicological examination was 532 relating to 177 cases against 455 articles in the previous year. Of these, 50 were cases of suspected human poisoning; 2 of suspected animal poisoning; 64 of blood stains and 3 of seminal stains. Poisons such as arsenic, mercury, naphthaline, morphia, strychnine, cerbera odallam, oleander and gloriosa superba were detected in 31 cases. There were also 56 cases of water requiring analysis. Three samples of *lehiam* contained ganja and ethyl alcohol. The total expenditure incurred during the year fell from Rs. 2,884 to Rs. 2,704.

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## CHAPTER XII.

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### PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

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*Director of Public Instruction.*

*Mr. J. Stephenson, B. Sc.,  
(London) A. R. C. Sc.*

The educational system of Travancore consists of three important branches, *viz.*, the vernacular schools, the English schools and the colleges. There are also institutions for the training of teachers and special schools for the teaching of Sanskrit.

*Educational  
System.*

Vernacular schools are of three classes, *viz.*, primary schools, vernacular middle schools and vernacular high schools. Primary schools teach up to class IV, the course of instruction being mainly confined to reading, writing, elementary arithmetic and simple lessons in history and geography. In girls' schools, special attention is paid to singing, needle-work and domestic economy. Primary education is free throughout the State. Vernacular middle schools teach up to class VII and vernacular high schools up to class IX. At the end of the primary course, the pupil either pursues vernacular studies in vernacular middle and high schools or joins the preparatory class in the English middle schools. English middle schools teach up to Form III and English high schools consist of all or any of the Forms IV, V and VI. Facilities are provided for the admission of pupils with sufficient knowledge of English from vernacular middle schools to English middle schools, English being an optional second language in vernacular schools. The Vernacular School Leaving Certificate issued to candidates who pass class VII, confers eligibility for entertainment in the subordinate ranks of the public service. Similarly, the English School Leaving Certificate gives eligibility to University courses of study and to the public service. On both the vernacular and English sides, there are separate schools for boys and

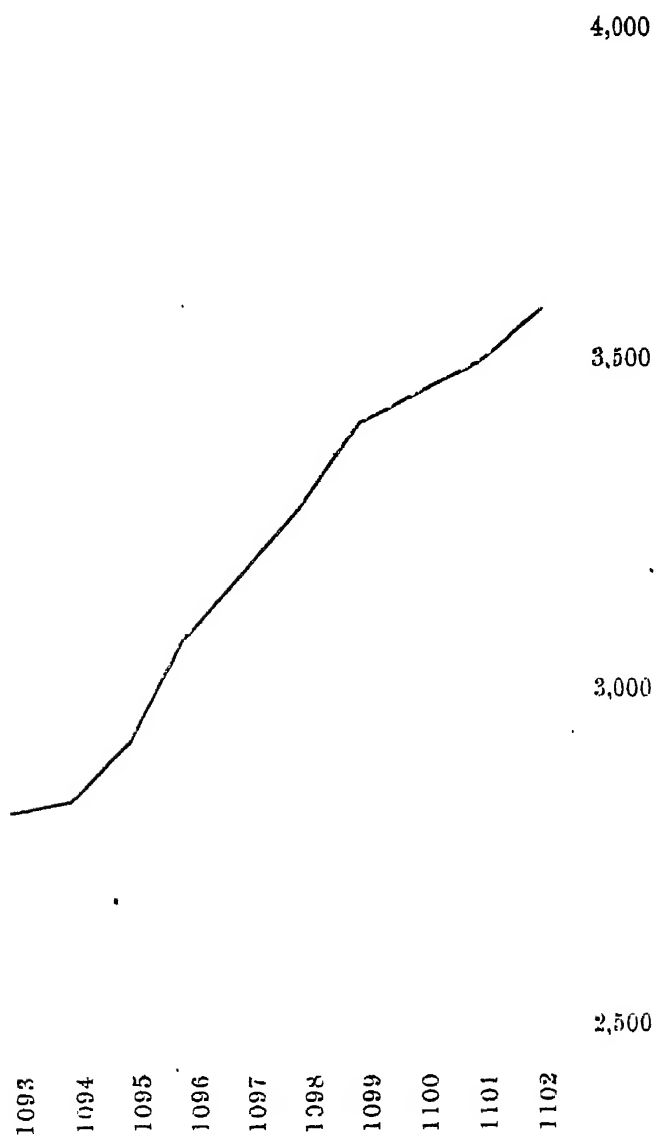


for girls with practically the same course of instruction. Co-education of boys and girls is freely permitted up to class IV in the primary standard and has long been customary. In the case of higher classes and forms, co-education is allowed in places where separate schools or colleges for girls are not available. Girls pay only half the rates of fees prescribed for boys in schools and colleges. The colleges maintained by the Government as well as those by denominational agencies, are affiliated to the University of Madras. The importance of vernacular education has been recognised by the State, and vernacular schools have long been under a separate inspectorate. English education also has had an equally long history having begun about a century ago. The number of English schools, public and departmental, increased so largely as to necessitate a separate inspectorate. In the same way, female education, both English and vernacular, is under the control and guidance of an Inspectress of Schools. A notable feature in the domain of education is the part played by private enterprise. All grades of schools, from the lowest primary standard to the highest college course, are run by private agencies. These agencies share with the Government the task of public instruction and receive substantial grants-in-aid from Government. Religious instruction is not imparted in Sirkar Schools, but private schools, particularly those managed by denominational agencies, are free to impart it outside school hours.

2. In the matter of education, the Government have always pursued a liberal and progressive policy and the remarkable advance in education made during the past few decades has been due to their sedulous and fostering care. Travancore now stands in the forefront of educated India. As regards primary education, its utmost importance has always been recognised and everything practicable is being done to make it universal. Government are now spending more than Rs. 39½ lakhs or nearly 17 per cent of the State revenue on education. The further development of education in the country will have to depend more largely on private enterprise and this the Government are encouraging by a system of liberal grants-in-aid. Consistent with the educational policy of the State, the education

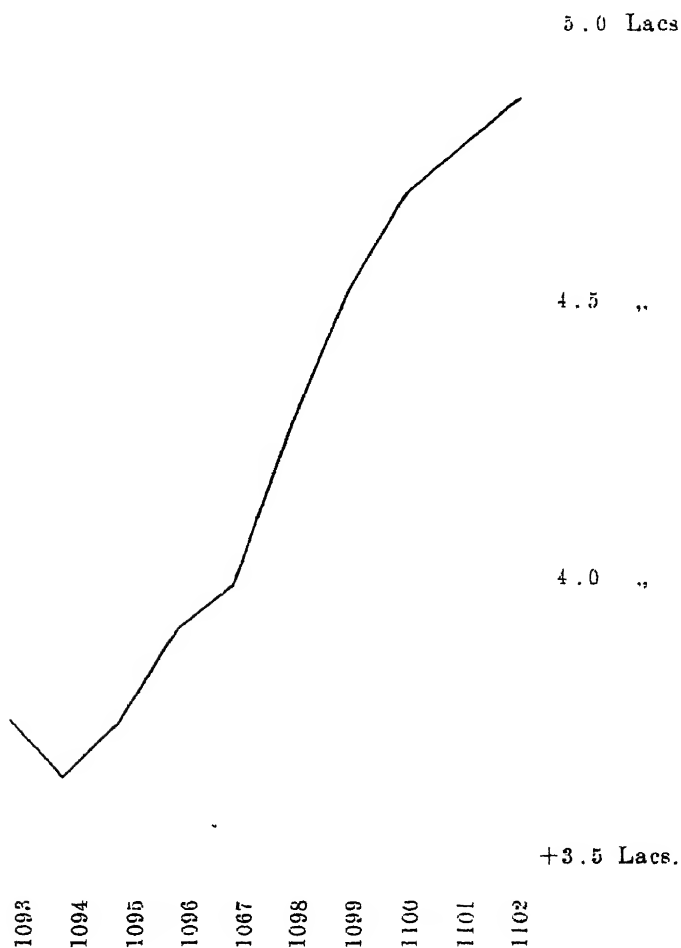
### *Educational Policy.*

# NUMBER OF RECOGNISED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.





# STRENGTH IN RECOGNISED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.





of backward communities has been systematically encouraged by the grant of special concessions and facilities to the students belonging to such communities. In addition to the schools and colleges where purely literary education is imparted, there are other institutions which are established for imparting professional and technical education. There is the Law College under the control of the High Court, the Ayurveda College under the Director of Ayurveda, Industrial and Technical Schools under the Director of Industries, the Forest School, the Survey Schools, the Agricultural School, Fishery Schools, etc. Quasi-educational institutions like the Trivandrum Public Library, the Museum and Public Gardens, and the Departments for the Preservation of Sanskrit and Malayalam Literature, are also maintained by Government.

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#### General Statistics.

3. The number of recognised institutions rose from 3,509 to 3,583 and the total strength of the pupils increased from 480,986 to 488,431. Of these, the number of departmental institutions was 1,083 with 223,894 pupils and the number of private recognised schools 2,500 with 264,537 pupils. Departmental schools decreased by 1 in number and by 3,431 pupils in strength, while private schools increased by 75 in number and by 10,876 pupils in strength. The private recognised schools consisted of 2,268 aided schools and 232 un-aided schools, the former having exceeded the number during 1101 by 46 and the latter by 29. Of the total number of pupils under instruction 46 per cent were in departmental schools and 54 per cent in private institutions. The largest number of institutions and pupils was in the Thiruvella taluk, *viz.*, 401 with 50,508 pupils followed by Neyyattinkara with 238 schools containing 36,631 pupils and Kottayam having 207 schools with 29,998 pupils. Besides the recognised institutions, there were 376 un-recognised schools in the State with an aggregate strength of 14,436 pupils. The total number of educational institutions, recognised and un-recognised, therefore rose

*Number and  
Strength of Edu-  
cational Institu-  
tions.*

from 3,948 with a strength of 497,518 pupils to 3,959 with a total strength of 502,867 pupils. There was thus on an average one school to every 1.92 square miles of the area and 1,012 of the inhabitants of the State. The proportion of pupils to the total population of the State was 1 in 7.9 against 1 in 8.05 in the previous year. The percentage of the total strength of the schools to the school-going population was 84 against 83 in 1101. The percentage of boys at school to the total male population was 16.06 and of girls at school to the total female population was 8.93 and of both to total population 12.5.

4. The total strength in the several recognised educational institutions during the year is exhibited

*Distribution of* in the following statement :—  
*Pupils.*

Institutions.	Number under instruction.		Variation in 1102.
	1101	1102	
Colleges ...	2,712	2,612	minus 100
English Schools ...	45,268	45,976	plus 708
Vernacular Schools ...	430,149	436,626	plus 6,477
Special Schools ...	2,857	3,217	plus 360
Total ...	480,986	488,431	plus 7,445

The variation in the strength of the colleges was the result of a fall in the College of Arts and the College of Science, in the College for Women and in St. Berchman's College, Changanacherry, and of a rise in the other colleges at Alwaye, Kottayam and Nagercoil. The total strength in the English schools increased by 1.6 per cent and of the vernacular schools by 1.5 per cent. The number of pupils attending the primary classes I to IV in recognised as well as un-recognised schools was 413,423. Assuming that 15 per cent of the total population in the State is of school-going age, the percentage of pupils attending these

classes was 68·80 against 68·13 in 1101. The corresponding percentage for recognised schools alone was 66·6 against 65·6 in 1101.

5. The increase of 7,445 pupils in recognised institutions was contributed by almost all the important communities in the State. The most noticeable increase was

*Progress of Education amongst certain Communities.* among the Catholic Syrians whose strength exceeded that of the previous year by 6,708. The Indian Christians, the Pulayas and the Congregationalists increased by more than a

thousand each, while the strength of the Parayas increased by 692. There were slight increases amongst Mahomedans, Lutheran Christians, Baptists, Nanjinad Vellalas, Salians, Paravans, Mukkuvans, Kuravas, Kannans, Asaris, Ezhavas, and Ampattans. There was a slight decrease in the number of pupils belonging to Itayans, Marakkans, Sakkiliyans, Uralis, Jacobites and Nairs. The total increase among Hindus was 3,376, among Christians 3,631, among Mahomedans 371, Jews 7 and the Hill tribes 60.

#### Direction.

6. Mr. J. Stephenson, the permanent Director, was on long leave during the first half of the year and Mr. R. Krishnaswami Aiyar, Principal of His Highness the

*Direction and Administration.* Maharaja's College of Science, acted as Director during the period. The Director controls the entire department assisted by an Inspector for English Schools, an Inspector for Vernacular Schools and an Inspectress for Girls' Schools. The Colleges of Arts and Science, the Training College, the College for Women and the Sanskrit College have their respective Principals who are responsible to the Director for the proper administration of these institutions.

7. The following may be mentioned amongst some of the outstanding events of the year : —

*Outstanding Events.* (1) The syllabuses of study for the L. T. degree examination revised by the University were introduced during the year.



(2) Play grounds covering an area of over 10 acres were set apart for the use of the Training College and the Model School.

(3) A class in 'First Aid' was held for the benefit of the students of the Training College.

(4) Three more departmental schools, one boys' school and two girls' schools, were thrown open to pupils of all classes, castes and creeds, the number of schools not open to all communities being thus reduced to 14.

(5) A new series of Malayalam readers consisting of six books was prepared and introduced in the schools.

(6) The committee appointed in the previous year to devise means for the enhancement of the salaries of teachers in vernacular schools and of grants-in-aid to teachers in such schools submitted its report which is engaging the attention of Government.

(7) The concession of admitting students not declared eligible for University courses of studies was withdrawn from the Women's Colleges by the University of Madras.

(8) Poor and deserving candidates of the depressed classes appearing at public examinations held by the department were exempted from payment of the usual examination fees.

(9) Thirty six male teachers from girls' schools were transferred to boys' schools.

(10) For the first time, women were appointed as clerks in the office of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools.

(11) A Boy Scout organisation with His Highness the Maharaja as Chief Scout and mainly financed by Government was inaugurated during the year.

#### College Education.

8. The number of Colleges affiliated to the University of Madras remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 8. The number of students in these colleges fell from 2,611 to 2,507. All the departmental colleges decreased in strength and all the private colleges except one showed increases. The decreases were striking in the Junior Intermediate and the Junior B. A. classes.

*Number and  
Strength of  
Colleges.*

**His Highness the Maharaja's College of Science.**

*Principal.* Mr. R. Krishnaswami Aiyar, B. A.

Mr. James Pryde, M. A., B. Sc., (*Acting*).

9. The College of Science prepared students in the B. A. Degree standard in Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and Natural Science. The third year Honours class in Branch I (Mathematics) was started during the year. The strength of the college fell from 907 to 802. The number of women students attending the college was 45 against 42 in 1101. In the Intermediate Examination, the percentage of students who passed the whole examination was 30 and the percentage of success in the B. A. Degree Examination was 64.2. The number of students who passed the B. A. Degree Examination completely during the year was 52. The library contained 8,291 volumes. The Collegiate Hostel which provides accommodation for Christians, Mahomedans and non-caste Hindus besides caste Hindus, accommodated 56 students of the Arts College. The other students resided in other approved hostels in Trivandrum or with their relations or in lodgings which were inspected by the college staff. Three numbers of the college magazine were issued during the year. The total expenditure on the college was Rs. 1,60,001, while the receipts from fees amounted to Rs. 82,149. The average annual cost per student was Rs. 187 of which Rs. 91 was contributed by Government and Rs. 96 met from fees.

**His Highness the Maharaja's College of Arts.**

*Principal.* Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswamy Aiyangar,  
M. A.

10. Students were prepared in this college up to the B. A. degree standard in history, philosophy and languages with honours courses in English and History. The strength of the college fell from 617 to 551. There were 42 women students in the college during the year. The percentage of complete passes amongst the students who appeared for the Intermediate examination was 45, while the percentage of success in the B. A. degree examination was 65. The first batch of students for the B. A. degree examination in philosophy was presented

during the year and 71 per cent passed. Of the 16 candidates who appeared for the B.A. honours final examination, 12 passed. Two of the three women candidates who appeared for the M. A. degree examination in history, economics and politics, came out successful. There were 18,826 volumes in the library. A new hostel was opened for the use of the college in its neighbourhood. A few students lived in this hostel; others were accommodated in the other College Hostel; and the rest in approved hostels and lodgings. The receipts from the college amounted to Rs. 59,205 and the expenditure to Rs. 95,701. The average annual cost per student was Rs. 164 of which Rs. 63 was contributed by Government and Rs. 101 met from fees.

#### **His Highness the Maharaja's College for Women.**

*Principal.*

*Miss D. H. Watts, B. A.*

11. The College for Women prepared students for the Intermediate examination in groups I and III. The strength of the college fell from 119 to 87. This decline was due to the withdrawal by the University of the concession to admit students not declared eligible for admission to University courses of study into women's colleges. Of the 87 students, 38 were Hindus and 49 Christians. Forty seven students were presented for the Intermediate examination, of whom 12 passed the examination in full, two being in the first class; and 20 passed in part only. Forty seven of the students resided in Government or approved hostels and the remaining 40 resided with their relations. The Government Hostel for Women accommodated 21 students. An application has been made to the University for the affiliation of the College in Group II and for raising it to the First Grade. The receipts from the college amounted to Rs. 4,734 while the expenditure was Rs. 40,150. The net expenditure on the college rose from Rs. 30,530 to Rs. 35,416.

**Private Colleges.**

12. The following statement gives details of the private colleges for the year under report.

Name of Institution.	Strength in		Remarks.
	1101.	1102.	
Union Christian College, Alwaye. (Principal. Mr. A. M. Varkki, M. A.).	228	302	Residential 1st Grade College with four hostels.
St. Berchman's College, Changanacherry. (Principal. Rev. Mathew Purakkal, M. A.)	406	394	1st Grade College with a hostel.
C. M. S. College, Kottayam. (Principal. Mr. C. K. Thomas, B. A. L. T. Acting).	153	179	2nd Grade College with a hostel.
Scott Christian College, Nagercoil. (Principal Mr. G. H. Marsden, M. A. (Cantab)).	130	142	2nd Grade College with a hostel.

A sum of Rs. 72,613 was contributed by the Government to private colleges as grants for maintenance, scholarships, appliances, furniture and building.

**The Training College, Trivandrum.**

*Principal.*

*Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami  
Aiyangar, M. A.*

13. The number of graduates selected for training was 50 of whom 19 were from departmental schools, 25 from private schools and 7 from the Cochin State. Two of these were women. The strength of the undergraduate section was 49 of whom 18 came from departmental schools and 31 from private schools. Of these undergraduates, 7 were women. All the graduate students under training appeared for the L. T. examination and 90 per cent passed. One of them took a first class, the only first class in the University in the year. Among the undergraduates, the percentage of success was 78. The number of volumes in the library was 8,869. The Training College hostel accommodated 32 students and the rest lived in approved hostels and lodgings. The total expenditure on the college was Rs. 41,211, while the receipts amounted to Rs. 10,912.

## The Sanskrit College, Trivandrum.

*Principal.**Mr. V. Krishnan Thampi, B. A.*

14. The strength of the college was 56 of whom 5 were women. The results of the Sanskrit examinations were as follows:-

Examination.	Number appeared.	Number passed.
Sastri Test	13	11
Upadhyaya	10	6
Mahopadhyaya	5	3
Smartha	5	5

The receipts of the college amounted to Rs. 142 and the expenditure to Rs. 20,532.

15. The total expenditure on college education, excluding the Sanskrit College, was Rs. 4,11,882

*Expenditure on* while the receipts amounted to Rs. 1,57,000.  
*College Education.* The net expenditure was thus Rs. 2,54,882.

## English Education.

16. The number of English schools in the State increased from 211 to 220 of which 41 were departmental schools, 58 aided and 121 un-aided. Of these 220

*Number and* schools, 186 were boys' schools and 34  
*Strength of Eng-* girls' schools. The boys' schools increased  
*lish Schools.* by 5 and the girls' schools by 4. The

departmental boys' schools decreased by 1 and private schools by 6. The abolition of the English middle school for Mahomedans at Thiruvithancode accounts for the decrease in the number of departmental schools. The number of departmental and unaided girls' schools remained unaltered, viz., 6 and 4 respectively, while that of aided girls' schools increased by 4. The total strength of boys' schools increased from 40,334 to 40,607 and that of girls' schools from 4,934 to 5,369. The increase in the boys' schools was the net result of a decrease in the high schools and an increase in the middle schools. The increase in the girls' schools was marked

both in the high schools and the middle schools. Of the total number of students in the English schools, *viz.*, 45,976, 67 per cent were in private schools. The number of girls attending boys' schools rose from 3,868 to 4,216. The increase has been progressive during the past few years. The increase was particularly striking in Kayenkulam, Chengannur and Mavelikara. As in the previous year, the number of English high schools was 63 of which 50 were for boys and 13 for girls. The number of departmental high schools was 21 consisting of 20 schools for boys and 1 school for girls; and that of private high schools 42 consisting of 30 boys' schools and 12 girls' schools.

17. The medical inspection of pupils was conducted during the year in all the departmental schools and in three private high schools.

18. The number of candidates who appeared for the English School Leaving Certificate examination was 3,631 of whom 3,279 were boys and 352 girls. Certificates were issued to 3,127 candidates and 1,058 candidates, consisting of 979 boys and 79 girls, were declared eligible for admission to University courses of study.

19. The total expenditure on English education increased from Rs. 7,21,546 to Rs. 7,82,497. This includes Rs. 1,33,365 awarded as grants during the year. The receipts fell from Rs. 4,00,289 to Rs. 3,74,349. The net expenditure was therefore Rs. 4,08,148.

#### Vernacular Education.

20. The number of vernacular schools increased from 3,240 to 3,301 of which 2,862 were boys' schools and 439 girls' schools. The number of departmental schools remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 1,023 consisting of 799 boys' schools and 224 girls' schools. Private schools increased from 2,217 to 2,278 of which boys' schools were 2,063 and girls' schools 215. The increase in the former was 39 and in the latter 22. The total

number of private institutions was 2,278. The total strength of the vernacular schools increased from 430,149 to 436,626 made up of 367,410 in boys' schools and 69,216 in girls' schools. The highest class in a vernacular school is class IX and there were 5 departmental schools and one private recognised school containing this class. The strength in the primary classes increased by 5,620. The number of girls attending vernacular schools for boys was 108,226 or 65 per cent of the total number attending boys' and girls' schools.

21. The total number of candidates who appeared for the Vernacular School Leaving examination was 4,346 of whom 2,990 were boys and 1,356 were girls.

*Vernacular School Leaving Examination.* The number of successful candidates was 1,305 made up of 979 boys and 326 girls or a percentage of 30.

22. The double shift system, which was described in the previous year's report and which was introduced in 1924 as a tentative measure, became steadily unpopular and the number of schools in which the system was tried was also gradually decreasing every year. At the end of 1102, the system continued in 53 schools only, i. e., 135 schools less than the original number of schools in which it was introduced 3 years ago. The scheme was discontinued with effect from the commencement of the current school year.

23. Teachers' Associations which form a special feature of the vernacular branch of the department and in which the teachers of departmental and private schools participate to discuss methods of teaching and allied educational subjects, continued to do good work. There were 1,252 meetings of 156 associations of the kind. These associations had a membership of 10,598 teachers who belonged to 2,425 schools.

24. English was a compulsory subject in 11 schools as in 1101. There were also 2 Anglo-vernacular schools in which English was taught from the III class.

25. The process of conversion, in predominantly Tamil areas, of Malayalam classes into Tamil classes in schools which were already partially converted into Tamil *Tamil Schools.* schools continued during the year. The number of Tamil schools for boys was 48 and for girls was 17.

26. The total expenditure on vernacular education was Rs. 22,70,809, including a sum of *Expenditure on Vernacular Education.* Rs. 7,08,280 awarded as grant-in-aid, while the receipts amounted to Rs. 1,41,823.

#### Female Education.

27. The number of recognised educational institutions for girls rose from 469 to 495 and their strength from 170,479 to 176,419. Of these institutions, 232 were *Number and Strength of Educational Institutions for girls.* departmental, 247 private aided and 16 private un-aided. The increase of 26 institutions was under private management. The number of English schools for girls increased by 4 and of vernacular schools by 22. Of the total number of girls under instruction, the number of girls in institutions for boys was 112,633 and the number in institutions for girls, 67,386. The number of girls attending boys' schools thus increased by 4,000 and that of girls in girls' schools by 1,940. The proportion of girls to boys attending schools and colleges was 1 to 1·768 against 1 to 1·821 in 1101.

28. As already noticed in the above paragraphs under college, English and vernacular education, girls have steadily increased in number in the several kinds *Distribution of girls amongst various institutions.* and grades of institutions. Of the total number of girls under instruction, 192 were in colleges, 9,585 in English schools, 165,118 in vernacular schools, and 1,524 in special schools.



29. Of the 352 girls who appeared for the English School Leaving Certificate examination, 89, *i. e.*, above 25 per cent, were declared eligible for college admission. The number of girls who appeared for the Vernacular School Leaving examination was 1,356 of whom 326 or about 25 per cent passed.

30. The special classes opened in the English high school for girls, Trivandrum, and in the Thirumulavilasam Balikamatom, Thiruvella, for the purpose of teaching domestic economy and other allied subjects particularly useful for women, continued to attract students. There were 39 students in the special classes during the year.

31. In the preceding paragraphs, the extent to which co-education, *i. e.*, education of boys and girls in the same institution, has spread in the State, has been briefly indicated. In the colleges for boys the number of women students during the year was 98 or 10 less than that in the previous year. The reason for this has already been noticed. Taking the figures for a decade, the number in 1093 was 20 which increased to 31 during the first quinquennium and to 98 during the 2nd quinquennium. The percentage of the total increase during the decade was 390. The same phenomenal increase is witnessed in the English schools for boys, where there were 4,216 girls, or 3,372 girls more than the number a decade ago. The percentage of increase in these schools was 399. Co-education was quite common in vernacular schools from very remote times and hence there was no extraordinary increase in the number of girls in vernacular schools for boys. The number of girls in these schools rose from 66,225 in 1093 to 1,08,226 in 1102, *i. e.*, by 42,001 or 63 per cent. The practice whereby it became possible for the education of boys and girls to be conducted in one and the same institution has been instrumental in the rapid expansion of female education in the State. In the absence of this system, under which out of 176,419 girls attending schools and colleges, 112,633 or 63 per cent attended boys' schools,

the provision of separate facilities for the education of girls in the different stages of instruction would have presented difficulties of serious magnitude.

32. The amount spent by government on musical instruction in departmental girls' schools during the year was Rs.31,937. Grants to the extent of Rs. 2,880 were also awarded to private girls' schools for the purpose. There were 177 teachers of music in departmental schools and 43 in private schools. Music examinations were held regularly as in the year previous.

#### Special School Education.

33. The number of training schools increased from 19 to 20 of which 11 were departmental, 7 private aided and 2 private un-aided. Of these one departmental and 3 aided schools were for women. The strength of these schools rose from 324 to 351 of whom 132 were women.

34. The total number of recognised technical schools rose from 16 to 17, of which 16 were aided and 1 was un-aided. The number under instruction in these schools rose from 1,317 to 1,376. These schools imparted instruction in weaving, lacemaking, embroidery, plain sewing, pillow lace making and drawing.

35. To the Reformatory School are sent juvenile offenders for purposes of correction and training. The number on the rolls at the commencement of the year was 33. There were 8 new admissions and 9 releases during the year. The 8 new admissions consisted of a Nair, 3 Ezhavas, 1 Sambavar, 1 Christian and 2 Mahomedans. Seven of these were convicted of theft and one of grievous hurt and wrongful confinement. All of them were first offenders. These juveniles were taught, in addition to elementary education, printing, book-binding, drawing, tailoring, agriculture and gardening and music. Spinning has been introduced after the close of the year. Moral and

physical instruction also received adequate attention. One of the boys released in the previous year was appointed an acting drawing master in a vernacular school.

36. The Kavya and Veda sections of the Sanskrit College contained 396 students including 29 girls. There was one Pulaya student in the Kavya class. There were 13 other sanskrit aided schools in the State with a total strength of 1,023 pupils.

*Sanskrit Schools.*

37. The number of night schools rose from 41 to 47 of which 39 were aided and 8 un-aided with a total strength of 1,494 pupils. The aided schools increased by 2 and the un-aided by 5.

*Night Schools.*

#### Education of Special Classes.

38. There were three schools in the State specially intended for children of the families of Rajas and other political pensioners. These were the special English middle school at Mavelikara, the departmental primary schools at Poonjar and Aranmula and the aided primary school at Pandalam. The total strength of these schools was 73 of which 21 were girls.

*Rajas.*

39. The number of Malayala Brahmins under instruction in recognised institutions at the end of the year rose from 1,048 to 1,070. The special school which was maintained by Government at Kunnathur for the use of the members of this community had only 42 students at the end of the year. Government incurred a total expenditure of Rs. 6,988 including boarding charges of Rs. 3,655, on account of this school. This works out at Rs. 184 per pupil per annum.

*Malayala Brahmins.*

40. The number of Mahomedans attending schools and colleges increased from 16,381 to 16,752. With the abolition of the English middle school at Thiruvitamcode, the only departmental school special to Mahomedans was the English High School at Alleppey. The strength of this school has been steadily falling during the past four years. The strength of the school at the end of the year was 118 or 30 less than the number in 1099 M. E. Arabic was taught in 155 vernacular schools for boys and as

*Mahomedans.*

an optional subject for the Vernacular School Leaving Examination in 13 schools. The school for Mahomedan girls at Pathanapuram was raised to the middle school grade. There were during the year 3 departmental and 7 aided vernacular schools for Mahomedan girls with an aggregate strength of 960 of whom 778 were girls and 182 boys. It is noteworthy that co-education in vernacular schools prevailed in this community also. A Mahomedan mess was started for the first time in the College Hostel.

41. The spread of education amongst the members of the Ezhava community is well sustained as illustrated by the steady increase in the number of pupils undergoing instruction in recognised schools. The number of Ezhava students increased from 73,063 to 73,239.

*Ezhavas.*

42. The number of Paraya pupils increased from 3,737 to 4,429 and that of Pulayas from 11,008 to 12,473 or by 1,465. There were Pulaya and Paraya pupils not only in vernacular schools but also in English schools, the number attending the latter being 97 Pulayas and 96 Parayas. Sixteen Pulaya girls and 11 Paraya girls passed Class IV in vernacular schools.

*Depressed Classes.*

43. The number of boys of the backward classes who were in the IV Class was 1,972 and that of girls 160. Of these 1,243 boys and 130 girls were promoted from that class and these students continued either in the vernacular schools or joined the English or Industrial or Sanskrit schools.

*Backward Classes.*

#### Miscellaneous.

44. In addition to the hostels attached to the Colleges of Science and Arts, the Women's College and the Training College, there were other hostels and boarding houses in Trivandrum. They were 8 in number run by different organisations, Christian, Mahomedan and Hindu. All these hostels were in receipt of grants from Government aggregating Rs. 3,250. The number of students

*Hostels and Boarding Houses.*

accommodated in these hostels was 267. Hostels were attached to all the four private colleges in the State, accommodating in all 417 students and receiving Rs. 1,880 by way of grant-in-aid. Boarding houses were attached to the special English middle school at Mavelikara and the Kunnathur special school. Boarding houses were also attached to 24 private English schools for boys, 9 girls' schools and 9 vernacular schools for boys.

45. Twelve orphanages were working during the year with a total strength of 110 boys and 698 girls.

*Orphanages.* Seven of these were run by Roman Catholics and four by the London Mission. One was a Hindu organisation. An expenditure of Rs. 1,330 was incurred by Government by way of aids to these orphanages.

46. A sum of Rs. 41,044 was spent on account of scholarships and a further sum of Rs. 39,600 was paid as stipends to teachers of departmental schools under training. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 43,629 and Rs. 35,176 respectively. In addition to the above amounts, grant-in-aid was given on account of stipends to teachers from non-departmental institutions to the extent of Rs. 23,296. The total expenditure out of endowed scholarships was Rs. 4,852.
- Scholarships and Stipends.*

47. Fee concessions were continued as in the previous year to pupils of the depressed classes, to poor pupils of the backward communities and also to poor pupils of the forward classes. The expenditure on account of these concessions was Rs. 75,845 of which Rs. 1,332 was spent in colleges, Rs. 58,860 in English schools and Rs. 15,653 in vernacular schools. A further sum of Rs. 62,920 was disbursed as grants to managers of private schools who allowed fee concessions to the pupils of their schools. The total loss to Government on account of the grant of fee concessions in departmental and private institutions was Rs. 1,38,765 against Rs. 1,19,228 in 1101.
- Fee Concessions.*

48. Instruction in the various forms of manual training and educational hand-work continued to be imparted to all students of the Training College and to the majority of pupils of the Model School, Trivandrum. *Manual Training.* Manual training was introduced in the Sri Mula Vilasom English High School and the English High School for Girls, Trivandrum, and all the departmental English middle schools, boys' and girls', except the English middle school for girls at Mavelikara and in all the departmental vernacular middle schools, boys' and girls'. Qualified manual training instructors taught the subject in all the departmental training schools.

49. Instruction in spinning continued to be imparted in the 22 schools in which the subject was introduced in 1100. *Spinning.*

50. There were 34 libraries and reading rooms in the State which were in receipt of grants-in-aid from Government against 37 in the previous year. *Libraries and Reading Rooms.* A sum of Rs. 2,382 was disbursed on account of grants-in-aid during the year against Rs. 2,352 in 1101.

51. The English Text Book Committee and the Vernacular Text Book Committee, the constitution of which was described in the previous year's report, continued to function throughout the year. The former committee had to dispose of 690 volumes and the latter 138 volumes. *Text Book Committees.*

52. This is attached to the Training College, Trivandrum, and is accessible to all classes of teachers. *Educational Museum and Bureau.* The total number of volumes in the institution was 13,674 of which 5,803 were lent for the use of the different educational institutions.

53. The number of institutions including hostels, reading rooms and orphanages, which were in receipt of grants from Government was 2,267. *Grants-in-aid.* The total amount disbursed as grants during the year was Rs. 9,62,241 against Rs. 8,27,432 in 1101. The

average rate of recurring annual grant was Rs. 335 per institution against Rs. 328 in the previous year.

54. The receipts and expenditure of the Education Department during the past three years are shown in the following tabular statement.

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Expenditure ...	37,18,023	37,44,036	39,59,578
Receipts ...	7,82,069	8,18,455	8,60,913

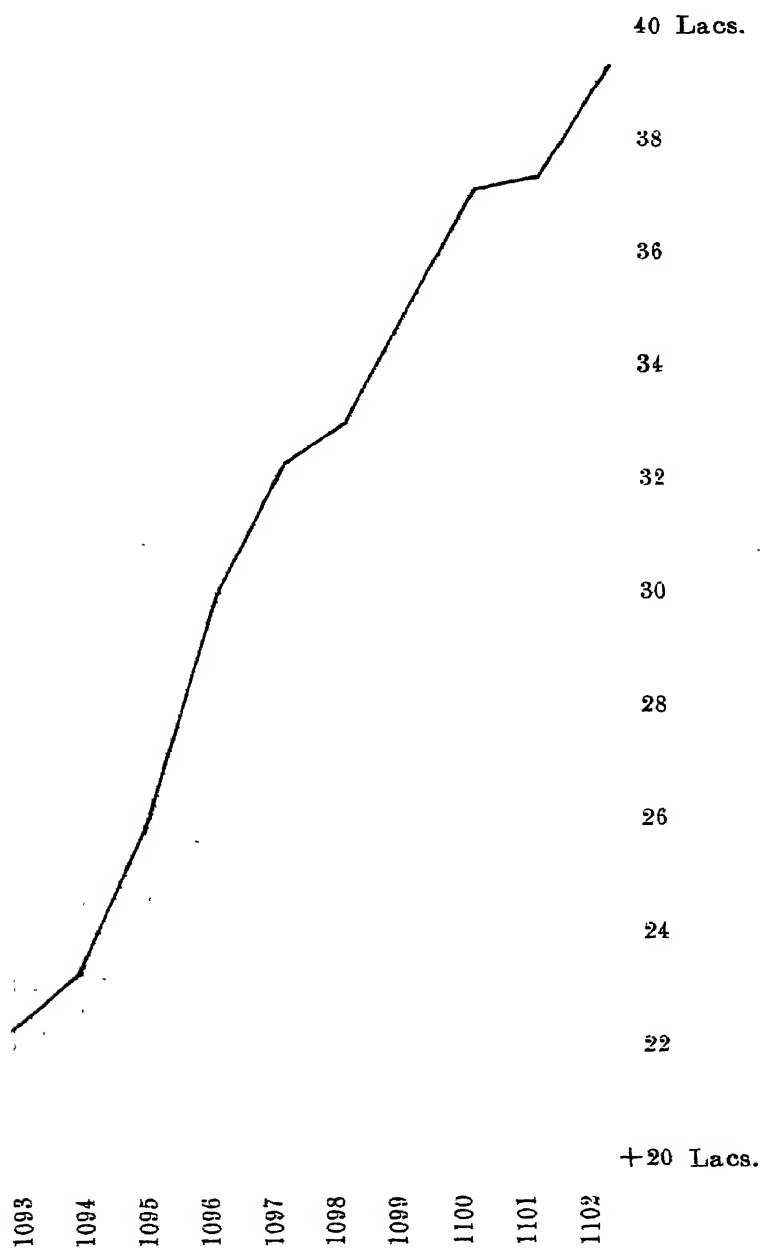
The receipts increased by Rs. 42, 458 while the expenditure also rose by Rs. 2,15,542. The increase in both cases is about 5 per cent. The net expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 29,25,581 to Rs. 30,98,665. The percentage of gross expenditure on education to the total expenditure of the State during the year was 19·3. The gross expenditure incurred by Government on the Education Department during the year works at As. 15·8 and the net expenditure at As. 12·3 per head of the population against 14·9 Annas and 11·9 Annas respectively in 1101.

#### Law College.

55. The total number of students on the rolls of the Law College was 544, made up of 273 students in the B. L. class, 182 in the F. L. class and 89 in the Pleadership class. The average number of students who lived in the hostel attached to the college, was 39.

56. Of the 197 students who appeared for the B. L. examination, 44 came out successful. In the F. L. examination 153 appeared and 43 passed. Thirty six sat for the Second Grade Pleadership examination and 13 were successful.

# EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE IN LACS OF RUPEES.







57. The receipts and expenditure of the Law College during the past three years are given below :—

*Receipts and  
Expenditure.*

	1100	1101	1102
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	49,600	51,445	57,465
Expenditure ...	34,256	34,258	34,436

The Law College continued to be a self-supporting institution.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT.

The number of municipalities in the State working under the provisions of the Travancore Municipal Regulation, V of 1095, remained the same as in 1101 *viz.*,

*General.* 19. The total strength of the members of all the municipal bodies on the last day of the year was 310, of whom 190 were elected and the rest, including 54 salaried servants of Government, were nominated by Government. All the councils, except Trivandrum, had the right of electing their own presidents. The president of the Trivandrum municipality is nominated by Government and he is a whole time salaried official. As the affairs of the Attingal municipality were in confusion, an official president was appointed as a temporary measure during the year.

2. The limits of the Padmanabhapuram municipality were extended during the year and as a result, the area comprised within the jurisdiction of the municipalities was  $111\frac{1}{4}$  square miles, against 111 in the previous year. The population of this area, according to the census of 1921, was 326,633.

*Area and  
Population.*

3. The average number of meetings per municipal council was 25, as in 1101. The Nagercoil municipal council held the largest number of meetings, *viz.*, 47; and the smallest number, *viz.*, 14 was held by the Colachel municipal council.

*Meetings.*

4. The birth and death rates recorded during the year in municipal towns were 34 and 17, respectively per mille of population. The Attingal municipality had the lowest birth rate, *viz.*, 20 per mille, while the lowest death rate was recorded at Neyyattinkara, *viz.*, 10 per mille. The infantile mortality was 81 per mille of registered births against 68 in 1101. The disparity in the figures is ascribed by the Sanitary Commissioner to

*Public Health.*

unsatisfactory registration work. The highest rate of infantile mortality was recorded in Shencottah, *viz.*, 246. The lowest was in Attingal *viz.*, 37. There were a few cases of cholera at Nagercoil, Trivandrum, Quilon and Padmanabhapuram, but the attacks recorded were only 6 with 4 deaths against 27 and 22 respectively in 1101. There were sporadic cases of small-pox at Trivandrum, Quilon, Mavelikara, Kuzhithurai and Parur, the total number of attacks for the Municipal area being 143, of which 14 proved fatal.

5. The number of cases vaccinated during the year in all the municipal towns was 38,009 against 34,703 in 1101. Of these, 25,012 were primary vaccinations and the rest re-vaccinations. Primary vaccination was successful in 96 per cent of cases against 97 in 1101, the corresponding figures for re-vaccination being 59 and 50.

6. The total number of prosecutions launched by municipal councils for the infringement of municipal laws and rules was 8,010 against 5,102 in 1101, of which 3,683 cases or 46 per cent ended in conviction, the majority under both the items being in Trivandrum, *viz.*, 4,918 and 3,031 respectively. The Alwaye municipal council appears to have launched no prosecutions at all in 1102.

7. The total receipts of the councils for the year amounted to Rs. 3,64,741 or Rs. 38,635 more than that of the previous year. The grants made by Government amounted to Rs. 41,921 against Rs. 39,068 in 1101.

This included the allotments sanctioned for the maintenance of lights in the Trivandrum municipality and for the maintenance of roads and streets in the municipalities of Nagercoil, Alleppey, Kottayam and Changanacherry. The aggregate receipts for all the councils amounted to Rs. 4,06,662 against Rs. 3,65,173 for 1101. The opening balance of the year to the credit of the municipal councils was Rs. 2,07,892. Including this, the amount available for expenditure was Rs. 6,14,554 against Rs. 5,57,669 in 1101, of which a sum of Rs. 3,72,906 was spent by the councils during the year against Rs. 3,49,777 in 1101. The closing balance at credit of the councils for 1102 was Rs. 2,41,648. The municipalities show a marked tendency to hoard money.

(ii) The inauguration of a scheme for the restoration of minor Devaswoms under the contribution system, according to which the works should be carried out by interested private agencies as per estimates approved by the Maramat department, the Devaswom department making a contribution of 50 per cent of the cost; and the successful execution of it in actual practice;

(iii) The abolition of animal sacrifices not only in Sirkar and aided Devaswoms, but also in un-aided private institutions;

(iv) The renovation and reconstruction of important temples in the State; and

(v) The standardisation of the celebration of annual festivals and Utsavams in Devaswoms and the avoidance thereby of waste and extravagance.

Towards the close of 1100 the Dewan was relieved of his duties and responsibilities in connection with the administration of the Devaswoms, other than the principal temple of the capital and the associated charitable institutions, within the territorial limits of the State and coming within the purview of the Devaswom Proclamation, and their administration was entrusted to the Devaswom Commissioner who was to be directly responsible to Her Highness the Maharani Regent with the exception of certain important matters in respect of which the previous approval of the Dewan has to be obtained.

2. The number of major Devaswoms during the year was 131 against 130 in 1101; that of minor Devaswoms 370 against 371; and that of petty Devaswoms

*Devaswoms—* 961 as in the previous year. The difference  
*Major, Minor,* in the number of major and minor Devaswoms was due to the inclusion of the  
*and Petty.* Mullakal Devaswom in Alleppey, hitherto

a minor Devaswom, as a major institution after the revision of its pathivus. The pathivus of five Devaswoms were revised during the year involving an additional expenditure of Rs. 16,945. Extraordinary ceremonies like Ashtabandhanam, Dravyakalasam and Navikaranam were performed in certain

temples at a cost of Rs. 3,094. Substantial progress was made in equipping the Devaswoms with the articles indispensable for their daily and periodical use in the shape of silk umbrellas, cooking utensils, thalaikettus, alavattams etc. The Nandavanoms or flower gardens attached to temples were extended and improved during the year. Several contributions were made by people to the supply of silver vahanams and other articles for use in certain Devaswoms and to the enhancement of pathivus in a few others. Endowments were also received from the public in favour of certain Devaswoms. The system of associating the public in the administration of minor and petty Devaswoms was extended to 31 institutions.

3. The number of aided Devaswoms situated inside the State was 604, while that outside the State was 24.

*Aided and Un-aided Devaswoms.* The census of un-aided private Devaswoms in the State which was started in 1099, was pushed on with vigour and it is hoped that correct statistics will be available by the end of the current year.

4. A certain amount of progress was made in the renovation and restoration of Devaswom buildings and their appurtenances.

*Renovation and Reconstruction of Temples.* The number of such buildings completely renovated by the public under the contribution system was 13. One petty temple in the Bhuthapandy Group was renovated at a cost of Rs. 1,500 by a private gentleman of the locality. The renovation and restoration of scheduled Devaswoms was the special work of the Maramat Department. Devaswom Maramat includes :—

(a) Original works and special improvements done by the Maramat Department;

(b) Contribution works under the control of the Maramat Department; and

(c) Petty construction and repairs done under the supervision of the officers of the Devaswom Department.

The following table gives the allotment and expenditure under the above heads during the year :—

Description.	Allotment.	Actual expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
Incomplete works	1,54,650	1,82,945
New works.	1,05,350	72,290
Contribution to Minor Devaswoms	20,000	19,876
Total	2,80,000	2,75,111
Petty construction and repairs	40,000	35,848

5. Enquiries under the Hindu Religious Endowments Regulation in respect of six institutions were in progress during the year. Final reports were furnished to Government in respect of two institutions since the close of the year.

6. The Special Officer for the verification of Thiruvabharanoms, etc., continued his work during the year and confined his attention to the verification of Thiruvabharanoms in the first class major Devaswoms. The work of verifying the Thiruvabharanoms in the Devaswoms other than the first class major Devaswoms, which was entrusted to the Assistant Devaswom Commissioners and the work of verification of Bharanipatroms and Pattuparivattoms which was entrusted to the Superintendents, continued to be inadequate. The Devaswom Commissioner has issued stringent instructions to these officers who have been asked to show a better out-turn during the current year.

7. The total number of Personal Deposit Devaswoms was the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 55. The accounts of three of these Devaswoms were duly audited during the year. Some of the important buildings belonging to these Devaswoms were renovated and the pathivus of some of these were suitably revised. The surplus funds of these Devaswoms aggregating to over 2 lakhs of rupees were invested in the Government treasuries. The most important of these Personal Deposit institutions are (1) the Kakur Estate in the British Ramnad District; (2) the Paschima and Erumeli Devaswoms; (3) the Pattazhi Devaswom; (4) the Thuravur Devaswom; and (5) the Perumanam Devaswom in the Cochin State.

8. The public took an increasing interest in the management of Devaswoms in general and cordially co-operated with the officers of the department in the conduct of Utsavoms and other festivals. The Pooram festival in connection with the Utsavom in the Shertallai temple was long the occasion for senseless ribaldries and obscenities which were revolting to religion and public morals. Respectable women used to leave the neighbourhood of the temple during these orgies. By command of Her Highness these were stopped during the year, the Police Commissioner and a special posse of police being at Shertallai during the time. The Sanketham limits of the Thiruvarpur Devaswom were defined and demarcated and the construction of a new road was sanctioned for the use of the general public. There were 27 elephants at the disposal of the Devaswom Department. Of these 13 were tuskers and 14 cow elephants.

*Temple Ele-  
phants.*

9. The total receipts of the Devaswom Fund including the Government contribution amounted to Rs. 17,39,062 against Rs. 17,00,577 in the previous year. The total expenditure charged to the Fund was Rs. 13,97,549 against Rs. 13,81,564 in 1101. The balance of the Devaswom Fund at the close of the



10. The receipts and expenditure of the department during the past three years were as follows:—

*Receipts and  
Expenditure.*

	1100 Rs.	1101 Rs.	1102 Rs.
Receipts ...	28,591	30,197	30,291
Expenditure ...	1,08,196	1,12,509	1,23,302
Deduct cost debitable to Anchal Department ...	7,272	9,666	6,489
Net total ...	1,00,924	1,02,843	1,16,813

The net expenditure of the department increased from Rs. 72,646 to Rs. 86,522.

Efficiency marked the work of the Press during the year.

**Stationery.**

11. The subjoined statement shows the receipts and expenditure under Stationery during the last three years:—

	1100 Rs.	1101 Rs.	1102 Rs.
Receipts ...	4,660	3,354	2,234
Expenditure ...	1,93,266	2,19,130	2,27,675
Deduct cost debitable to Anchal Department ...	9,901	14,253	8,242
Net Total ...	1,83,365	2,04,877	2,19,433

12. The value of purchases during the year increased from Rs. 2,04,275 to Rs. 2,09,070. The value of the articles issued to the several departments amounted to *Stock and Issue.* Rs. 1,62,719 against Rs. 2,25,238 in the previous year. The stock in hand at the end of the year was worth Rs. 2,33,872 against Rs. 1,87,591 at the close of 1101.

#### Archaeological Department.

13. The office of Superintendent of Archæology has been vacant since February 1926. Certain inscriptions in two old temples in the suburbs of Trivandrum were deciphered. A few old manuscripts and books in the Palace library and the Central Vernacular Records were also examined. The examination of some Roman and Chola coins was completed during the year. Volume V-Part III of the Travancore Archæological Series with index to Volume V and Volume VI-Part I were ordered to be struck off. Papers for Volume VIII-Part I were prepared during the year. The expenditure on the department fell from Rs. 3,899 to Rs. 2,906.

#### Publication of Sanskrit Manuscripts.

*Curator.*

*Mr. K. Sambasiva Sastri.*

14. The publications of the old Sanskrit manuscripts were hitherto known as the Trivandrum Sanskrit Series. This series continues to attract world-wide attention and requests for copies of publications pour in from everywhere. From the 89th number which was issued during the year under report, the publication has been entitled "Sri Setu Lakshmi Prasada Mala" in addition to the existing title.

15. The number of granthas prepared for the Press was 24,083 against 21,530 in 1101, of which 11,145 granthas were finally printed. Of the four works published during the year, three were issued as Nos. 89 to 91 of the Trivandrum Sanskrit Series and the fourth was a second edition of No. 40,

The three works were :—

(1) Sphotasidhi dealing with the doctrine of letters or sounds.

(2) Mimamsaslokavartika, a book on ancient Indian Philosophy.

(3) Horasastra, a work on astrology.

The Curator was able to collect 82 manuscripts during the year. A discovery of utmost importance was a contemporary Sanskrit manuscript found in the Suchindram Temple, of the acts of Marthanda Varma Maharaja (1729-1758 A. D.). The expenditure on the department increased from Rs. 10,485 to Rs. 11,703.

#### Publication of Malayalam Manuscripts.

16. The publication of Malayalam manuscripts is attended to by Mr. K. Sankara Menon, Director of Ayurveda. He is assisted by a small special staff for the purpose.

*Personnel.*

17. The total number of manuscripts collected till the end of 1102 was 422 of which 49 were collected during the year.

The transcription of 117,498 granthas was also finished for the Press. The following books, the first four included in the Sri Mulam Malayalam Series and the rest in the Sri Vanchi Setu Lakshmi Series were published during the year:—

*Work done.*

1. Parvatheepanigrahanam, a close adaptation of Kalidasa's Kumara Sambhava.

2. Praisham, a work on the subject of the daily practices or observances of Hindus.

3. Bheeshmopadasom, a metrical moral code.

4. Ramayanam Champu Vol. II.

5. Muhurthapadavi, standard work on Muhurta or auspicious moments for performing religious rites and ceremonies.

6. Balasankaram, an exhaustive treatise on the science of Muhurta.

7. Aryabhateeyam, the famous astronomical work of Aryabhata.

18. The expenditure on the department increased from Rs. 3,684 to Rs. 3,789.

*Expenditure.*

### Presses and Publications.

19. There were at the end of the year 108 printing presses in the State. The number of books published from these presses was 349 of which 197 were publications by Government. Of these 349 publications, 173 were in Malayalam, 161 in English, 6 in Tamil, 5 in Sanskrit and 4 in English and Malayalam. The majority of the private publications related to general literature, and others treated of religion, biography, history, education, economics, law, medicine, mechanics, banking and miscellaneous matters.

20. There were 44 newspapers and 76 periodicals published in the State during the year, against 57 newspapers and 89 periodicals in 1101. Of these, 49

*Newspapers and Periodicals.* were published in Malayalam exclusively, 37 in English and Malayalam, 19 in

English, 9 in Tamil, 1 in Malayalam and Tamil and 5 in English, Malayalam and Tamil. Of the newspapers in circulation, 4 were daily, 5 tri-weekly, 3 bi-weekly, and 30 weekly publications while one was a fortnightly and another was an occasional publication. All the newspapers dealt with political matters besides providing local and general news to the public. Of the periodicals, 3 were published fortnightly, 58 monthly, 2 once in two months 6 quarterly, 6 once in four months and one was an annual publication. Fourteen periodicals were devoted to social, 21 to religious, 29 to literary and educational, 2 to general and political, 9 to miscellaneous topics, and one periodical dealt with medicine. During the year under review, 51 new licenses were issued to newspapers under the Travancore Newspapers Regulation, V of 1101 and 7 licenses were cancelled on application as the licensees stopped publication. At the end of the year the total number of newspapers and journals, daily, periodical and occasional, was 120.

### Museum and Public Gardens.

*Honorary Director.* Mr. C. Balakrishna Rao, B. A.,  
B. E., C. E.

21. Mr. A. Narayanan Nair, Superintendent, was in charge of the Museum and Public Gardens during the year pending the appointment of an Honorary Director.

*Personnel.* Mr. C. Balakrishna Rao was appointed Honorary Director since the close of the year,

22. The number of visitors to the Museum increased from 291,156 to 308,623. The average number for a working day was 1,012 against 931 in 1101.
- Number of Visitors.*
- 

#### Trivandrum Public Library.

*Honorary Secretary.* Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan,  
M. A. (Oxon.)

23. The membership increased from 189 to 191 and the number of subscribers from 394 to 424. The general reading room attached to the library continued to be popular. The average number of readers per mensem was 3,094. The number of volumes at the end of the year was 26,735 or 699 volumes more than that for the previous year. The total number of books lent to members and subscribers increased from 27,402 to 27,850. As in the previous year, books on fiction had the largest circulation, followed by 'General Prose,' 'Economics, Politics and Sociology' and 'Poetry and Drama.' The scheme for the affiliation of mofussil libraries engaged the attention of Government. The receipts during the year rose from Rs. 4,440 to Rs. 4,450, while the expenditure fell from Rs. 12,356 to Rs. 12,056.

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#### Observatory.

*Honorary Director.* Mr. V. Sivaramakrishna  
Aiyar, M. A.

24. As in the previous year, the work done in the Observatory consisted in making and tabulating the usual meteorological observations. Daily weather telegrams were despatched to Simla, Bombay and Madras. There were 76 rain gauges maintained by the department. The results of the record of rainfall during the year have already been noticed under "Season and rainfall" in Chapter VIII.

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## State Life Insurance.

25. The rules now in force were introduced from Edavom 1099. The fund is administered by the Financial Secretary to Government. Insurance is optional and is confined to Government servants. The revision of the scheme with a view to making the benefits of the State Life Insurance available to the public is under consideration.

26. The number of policies in force at the commencement of the year was 867. Twenty seven proposals were considered in the year, inclusive of 6 which had been made in the previous year. Policies were issued in 16 cases; 4 proposals were rejected and 7 were pending, 4 for want of proper age-certificates and 3 for non-receipt of first premium. The outgoings in the year were 19 policies—4 by death and 15 by maturity. The number of policies at the close of the year was 864.

27. Seventeen claims were considered in the year, inclusive of 6 relating to the previous year. Fifteen were disposed of leaving a balance of 2. One of these was pending for want of succession certificate.

28. The opening balance of the fund with Government was Rs. 2,95,590. The premia collected with interest amounted to Rs. 20,198. The interest charged on the balance of the fund came to Rs. 12,000. Thus the total receipts aggregated Rs. 3,27,788. In regard to payments, a sum of Rs. 1,473 was paid towards claims of heirs and Rs. 4,560 on account of bonuses on matured policies. The closing balance of the fund with Government was Rs. 3,21,755. No charge has been made to the fund on account of expenses connected with the administration, audit, etc. The quinquennial actuarial valuation of the fund is now in progress.

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### Savings Banks.

29. Savings Bank business is done in all the State treasuries and at the more important Anchal offices. Besides 'Ordinary

*General.* Accounts' which members of the general public are allowed to open, security deposits

are received where pass-books are to be pledged and deposited as security for the purpose of a contract with Government. "Public Accounts" are allowed to be opened on behalf of dispensaries, schools, orphanages, etc., conducted for purposes other than the personal advantage of the contributors of the funds or of the administrators and by Municipalities, Co-operative Societies, etc. "Fixed Deposits" are received for periods of six months and one year, from Municipalities and Devaswoms having personal deposit accounts at Treasuries. The total amount which may be deposited at interest in an 'ordinary' account is limited to Rs. 2,000 in a year and to Rs. 10,000 at any time. The limit in the case of a 'public account' is Rs. 20,000. The rate of interest allowed on the minimum balances of running accounts between the 6th and the close of the month remained unchanged at Rs. 4-0-8 per cent per annum and at 4 per cent on fixed deposits.

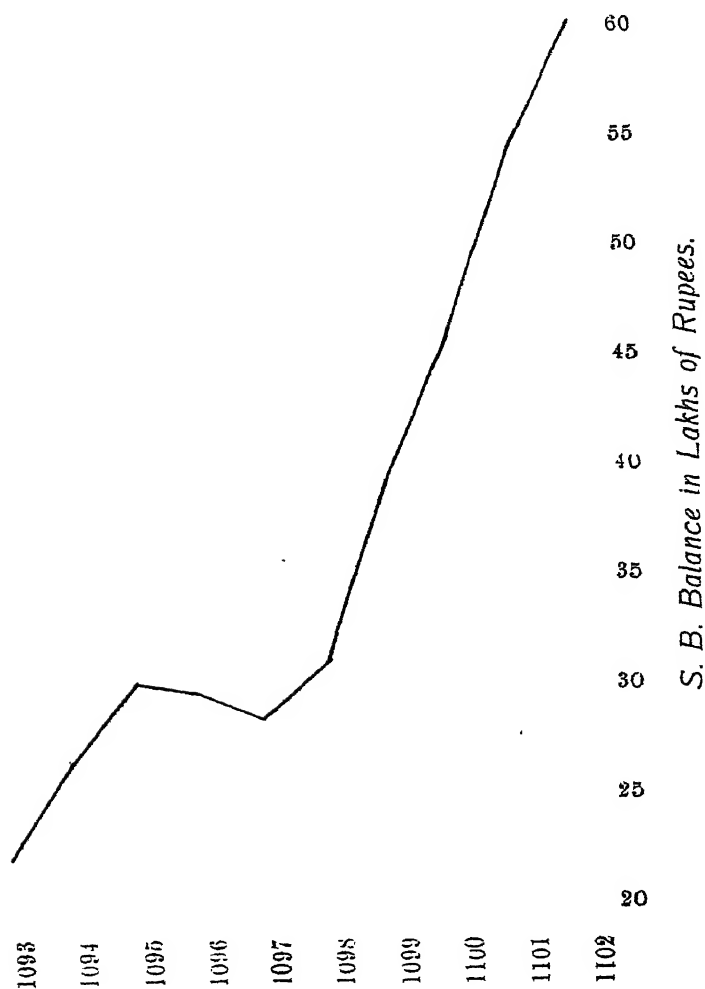
30. The opening balance was Rs. 54·01 lakhs against Rs. 45·89 lakhs in 1101. Deposits amounted to Rs. 46·55 lakhs against Rs. 49·02 lakhs in the previous

*Volume of Business.* year. The amount of interest allowed and credited rose from Rs. 1·80 lakhs to Rs. 2·08 lakhs. The withdrawals amounted to Rs. 42·74 lakhs against Rs. 42·71 lakhs in 1101. The closing balance rose from Rs. 54·01 lakhs to Rs. 60·08 lakhs.

31. The closing balances in the treasury and Anchal Savings banks for 1101 and 1102 are compared below, under number of accounts and amounts held in deposit.

*Balances.* Figures for 'ordinary' accounts are separately given. The amounts are given in lakhs of rupees :—

## BALANCES UNDER SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS.







	1101.						1102.					
	No. of S. B. Offices.	Ordinary accounts.		Total of all accounts.		No. of S. B. Offices.	Ordinary accounts.		Total of all accounts.		No. of S. B. Offices.	No. of S. B. Offices.
		No.	Amount.	No.	Amount		No.	Amount.	No.	Amount		
Treasury S. B.	31	88½	1.08	11,873	33 14	31	1.184	1.79	11,097	33.10		
Anchal S. B.	82	35,829	17.89	38,672	20.57	83	38,682	18.21	41,342	21.98		
Total ...	113	36,713	19.87	50,545	54.01	116	39,876	20.00	52,439	60.05		

The increases over the previous year's total figures were 3.7 per cent in the number of accounts, and 11.1 per cent in the amount held in deposit. Anchal offices showed increases of 15.3 per cent in the number of accounts and 22.2 per cent in the amounts deposited. The number of accounts in the British Post Office Savings Banks in Travancore increased from 9,535 to 10,862 or by 13.9 per cent, while the amount held in deposit rose from Rs. 4.37 lakhs to Rs. 4.69 lakhs or by 7.3 per cent.

32. There has been a steady increase in the State savings bank business during the year under ordinary accounts as well as in the total of all accounts. The number of

*Progress of  
Business.*

accounts increased from 33,588 in 1098 to 52,439 during the year under report and the balance from Rs. 30.73 lakhs to Rs. 60.08 lakhs. It was stated in the previous year's report that a special review of savings bank accounts was being made with a view to transferring really inoperative accounts to the 'Dead' list under the rules. This was done with the result that the number of effective accounts was 39,892 with a balance of Rs. 59.90 lakhs and that the number of dead accounts was 12,547 with Rs. 18 lakhs. Several applications have however been received for renewing accounts which were notified to depositors as ineffective. The effective list showed that the average closing balance at the credit of a depositor under 'ordinary' accounts was Rs. 72.5 against the previous year's total average of Rs. 54. This compares favourably with the average balance at credit of a depositor in the British Post Office Savings Banks in Travancore, which was about Rs. 44.

33. The interest allowed on deposits and balances in the year was Rs. 2·08 lakhs, against Rs. 1·80 lakhs in the previous year.

Taking into consideration the average rate of interest yield on surplus investments in Government of India Securities (but without providing for appreciation of the securities), the interest earned on the balances of Savings Bank Deposits may be put down at Rs. 2·67 lakhs. The gross return to the State from the Savings Bank business was accordingly about Rs. '6 lakhs.

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#### Popular Assembly.

34. The twenty-third session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly commenced its sittings on Monday the 21st February 1927. Copies of the Administration Report for 1101 M. E. were distributed among the members. A statement of action taken on the representations made at the previous session of the Assembly was for the first time prepared and furnished to each member. The Dewan opened the Assembly at 12 noon with an address dealing with the salient features of the year's administration and to the Government's future policy generally. The consideration of the representations began the next day. The session lasted 10 days. The number of representations made during the session was 199 of which 40 per cent related to local needs, 15 per cent to communal questions, 20 per cent to land revenue and judicial matters and the rest to the activities of other departments and miscellaneous subjects.

*Huzur Cutcherry,  
Trivandrum,  
17th February, 1928.* }

M. E. WATTS,  
Dewan.

# INDEX.

A		PAGE	
<b>Agent to the Governor-General</b>	...	7	
<b>Agrasala</b>	...	178	
<b>Agricultural Colonies.</b>			
Progress of	...	99	
<b>Agricultural Department</b>			
Direction	...	92	
Soil survey by the Department	...	92	
Biological analysis of soils	...	93	
Agricultural Chemist	...	93	
Agricultural Bacteriologist.	...	93	
Experimental reclamation of kari lands	...	93	
Experimental reclamation of alkali lands	...	94	
Popularisation of scientific manures	...	94	
Popularisation of improved types of implements.	...	95	
Experiments in paddy cultivation	...	95	
Experiments in cocoanut cultivation	...	96	
Experiments in tapioca cultivation	...	96, 97	
Experiments in cultivation of pepper	...	97	
Experimental cultivation of rubber	...	97	
Experiments in cultivation of ginger	...	97	
Promotion of sericulture...	...	98	
Promotion of apiculture.	...	98	
Cattle-breeding by the Department	...	98	
Poultry-farming by the Department	...	98	
Promotion of weaving	...	99	
Receipts and expenditure of the Department	...	102	
<b>Agricultural Loans</b>			
Amount of in 1102	...	20, 28	
<i>Alfred Vipan.</i>			
Chief Engineer	...	121	
		PAGE	
<b>Anchal.</b>			
Superintendent of	...	129	
Anchal offices and letter boxes	...	129	
Mail lines	...	130	
Covers posted	...	130	
Delivery of covers	...	130	
Value payable and insured articles	...	130	
Hundies issued and paid.	...	131	
Savings banks	...	131	
Dead letter office	...	131	
Receipts and expenditure.	...	14, 132	
<b>Animal Sacrifices.</b>			
Abolition of, in Devaswoms	...	174	
<b>Apiculture.</b>			
Promotion of, by the Agricultural Department.	...	98	
<b>Archaeological Department</b>		183	
<b>Army.</b>			
Commandant	...	84	
Personnel	...	84	
Strength and discipline of.	...	85	
Receipts and expenditure.	...	85	
<b>Arrack.</b>			
Raising of duty on jaggery arrack	...	41	
Reduction of number of shops	...	41, 42	
Consumption per head of population	...	42	
<b>Arts</b>			
School of Arts	...	106	
<b>Assets and Liabilities of the State</b>	...	18	
<b>Ayurveda Department</b>			
Director of	...	143	
Institutions	...	143, 144	
Number of patients treated	...	144	
Receipts and expenditure	...	145	
		B	
<b>Bacteriological Laboratory</b>			
at Trivandrum,	...	142	
<i>Balakrishna Rao, C.</i>			
Honorary Director, Government Museum and Public Gardens	...	185	

	PAGE		PAGE
<b>Banks</b>		Offences under the Chit-	
Conducted by Joint Stock		ties Regulation ...	90
Companies ...	111, 112	Conducted by Joint Stock	
Conducted by Co-operative		Companies ...	111
Societies ...	116, 117	Conducted by Co-operative	
<i>Bhotalingam Aiyar, P. N.</i>		Societies ...	118
Judge, High Court ...	60	<b>Christians</b>	
<b>Boys' Schools</b>		Strength of population ...	3
System of instruction ...	149	Co-operative Societies of... ..	113
English schools ...	159	Progress of education among	153
Vernacular schools ...	160	<b>Civil Courts</b>	
<b>Boy Scouts</b>		Village Panchayat Courts	61, 71
Inauguration of ...	154	Munsiffs' Courts ...	61, 71, 72
		District Courts ...	61, 72, 73
<b>C</b>		High Court ...	60, 74
<b>Carpentry School</b> ...	106	<b>Cocoanut trees</b>	
<b>Cattle breeding</b>		Best manure for ...	94
By the Agricultural de-		Experiments in cultivation	
partment ...	98	of ...	96
<b>Central Co-operative Bank</b>		Treatment of diseases of .	96
Government advances to ...	20	Export duty on produce of	49
Share capital of ...	114	Bulk of export duty of the	
Deposits in ...	114	State derived from pro-	
Working capital of ...	115	duce of ...	49
Working of ...	116	<b>Colleges</b>	
<b>Central Prison</b>		System of instruction in..	149, 150
Superintendent ...	86	Affiliation to the Madras	
Strength ...	86	University ...	150
Convicted prisoners ...	86, 87	Law College ...	151, 163,
Execution and escape ...	87		169
Discipline and conduct of		Ayurveda College ...	144, 151
prisoners ...	87	College of Arts ...	152, 155
Disease and mortality		College of Science ...	152, 155
among prisoners ..	87	College for Women ...	152, 156,
Receipts and expenditure	88	St. Berchman's College ...	152, 157
<b>Chacko, I. C.</b>		Union Christian College..	152, 157
Director of Industries and		Scott Christian College ...	152, 157
Geology ...	103	Training College ...	153, 157
<b>Chandy, J. J.</b>		Number affiliated ...	154
Sanitary Commissioner ...	145	Sanskrit College ...	158
<b>Chandy, J. J.</b>		Total expenditure on college	
Superintendent, Government		education ...	158
Press ...	181	<b>Commerce</b>	
<b>Chandrasekharan, C. V.</b>		School of ...	107
Honorary Secretary, Public		<b>Communications</b>	
Library ...	186	Development of, by the Public	
<b>Charities</b>		Works department ...	122, 123
Expenditure on ...	178	Extent of communications	
<b>Chatfield, H. S.</b>		in proportion to area of	
Chief Justice ...	60	the State ...	123
<b>Chemical Examiner</b> ...	148	Proportion of outlay on	
<b>Chitties</b>		communications ...	122
What they are ...	90	Construction of Western	
Number registered in		Outlet Road ...	126
1103 ...	90	<b>Companies—Joint Stock.</b>	
		Number of ...	111
		Total capital of ..	111, 112

	PAGE		PAGE
Foreign companies ...	112	General features of the department ...	173, 174
Receipts and expenditure..	112	Renovation of temples...	175
<b>Co-operative Societies.</b>		Verification of Thiruvabharanams ...	176
Registrar of ...	113	Personal deposit devaswoms ...	177
Number and nature of ...	113	Temple elephants ...	177
Finances of ...	114, 115	Devaswom fund ...	177, 178
Banks ...	116, 117	Charities ...	178
Fishermen's societies ..	101	Maramat works of the department ...	127, 128
Agricultural societies ..	117	<b>Dewar.</b>	
Non-agricultural societies..	117	Chief Executive Officer...	8
Distributive societies ...	117	President of the Legislative Council ...	11
Societies for depressed classes ...	117	Previous sanction of—for introduction of certain measures in the Legislative Council ...	12
Supervising unions ...	118	Powers of emergency legislation ...	12
<b>Cottage Industries.</b>		Functions in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly ...	13
Scheme for development of ...	105	Certain judgments of the High Court to be transmitted to the Sovereign for confirmation through..	60
<i>Cotton, C. W. E.</i>		Relation to the administration of Devaswoms...	174
Agent to the Governor-General ...	7	<i>Dhanukoti Pillai, R.</i>	
<b>Criminal Courts</b>		Conservator of Forests ...	50
Magistrates' Courts		<b>District Courts.</b>	
Original work ...	65	Powers of ...	61
Appellate work ..	66	Recruitment of Judges ...	62
Miscellaneous work ...	66	Tenure of office of Judges ...	62
Sessions Courts		Work done in the year...	72, 73
Original work ...	67		
Appellate work ...	67	<b>E</b>	
Miscellaneous work ...	67	<b>East India Company.</b>	
<b>Currency.</b>		Treaties with ...	4
Used in Travancore ...	5	<b>Economic Development Board.</b>	
Cases of counter-feiting..	81	Constitution of ...	109, 110
<b>Customs.</b>		Functions of ...	109, 110
System of import and export duties ...	48, 49	Work of ...	110
Chief sources of customs revenue ...	48, 49	<b>Education.</b>	
Tariff values ...	49	Director of Public Instruction ...	149
Receipts and expenditure .	14, 15, 16, 50	Educational system ...	149, 150
		Co-education of boys and girls ...	150, 162, 163
<b>D</b>		Half-fee concession to girls ...	150
<b>Depressed Classes.</b>			
Registry of lands to ...	27		
Co-operative societies of..	113, 117, 118		
Exemption of pupils from payment of examination fees ...	154		
Number of pupils among..	165		
Fee concession to ...	166		
<b>Devaswom Department.</b>			
Commissioner of Devaswoms ...	173		

	PAGE		PAGE
Private enterprises in the field of ...	150, 151, 159, 160, 161	Abkari contracts ...	41
Religious instruction in Schools ...	150	Fountry liquors ...	41, 42, 43, 44
Educational policy ...	149	Foreign liquor ...	44
Percentage of expendi- ture on ...	150	Consumption and sale of opium and ganja ...	45
Backward communities, education of ...	151, 153, 165, 166	Do. Do of tobacco. ...	46
Technical and industrial. ...	106, 107, 108	Excise offences ...	46
Promotion of, by Co- operative Societies ...	113	Receipts and expenditure. ...	14, 15, 47, 48
Number and strength of educational institut- ions ...	151	<b>Expenditure of the State</b> ...	17
Technical schools ...	151	<b>Exports.</b>	
Distribution of pupils ...	152	Chief articles exported ...	133, 134
Administration of the department ...	153	Per capita value of ...	133
Scholarships and stipends. ...	166	Receipts from duty on cocoanut produce ...	134
Fee concession ...	166	Value of exports in tea ...	134
Educational Museum and Bureau ...	167	Do. in rubber ...	134
Grants-in-aid to education- al institutions ...	167, 168	<b>Export Duty.</b>	
Receipts and expenditure. ...	14, 17, 169	Percentage of, to total customs receipts ...	16
Percentage of expenditure on ...	17, 168	System of levy of ...	48, 49
Education of special classes ...	164	Chief sources of ...	48, 49
<b>Electric Supply.</b>		<b>Ex-Service men.</b>	
Scheme for—at Trivan- drum ...	105, 126	Registry of lands to ...	27, 28
<b>Elephants.</b> ...	55, 177	<b>Extradition,</b> ...	68
<b>English Schools.</b>		<b>F</b>	
System of instruction in... ..	149, 150	<b>Factories.</b>	
Separate inspectorate for. ...	150	Distribution and classi- fication of ...	119
Number and strength of... ..	158	Labour conditions in ...	120
Medical inspection of pupils ...	159	<b>Factory Industries.</b>	
Expenditure on ...	159	Match manufacture ..	105
<b>European British Subjects.</b>		Sugar industry ...	106
Special courts in regard to offences committed by... ..	60, 62	Candle manufacture ...	106
<b>Excise Revenue.</b>		<b>Finance.</b>	
Sources of ...	39	Statement of revenue and expenditure ...	14
System of Excise admini- stration ...	39, 40	Details of revenue ...	15, 16
Abkari policy ...	40	Details of expenditure ...	17
General administrative changes ...	40, 41	Statement of assets and liabilities ...	18
		Capital outlay ...	19
		Savings bank deposits ...	19
		Sinking funds ...	19, 20
		Investments, deposits and loans ...	20
		<b>Finger Print Bureau</b> ...	83
		<b>Fisheries.</b>	
		Director ...	92
		Experiments in piscicul- ture ...	100

	PAGE
Shank fisheries ...	100
Fish curing ...	101
Education of fishermen...	101
Co-operative societies of fishermen ...	101, 117, 118
<b>Foreign liquor.</b>	
Fall in number of licenses for vend of ...	44
<b>Forests.</b>	
Conservator of— ...	50
History of the department.	50, 51
Area under forests ...	51
Forest policy ...	51, 52
Reserved forests ...	52
Sylviculture ...	53
Taungya system ...	53
Exploitation of timber ...	54
Minor forest produce ...	54, 55
Elephants ...	55
Receipts and expenditure of the department ...	14, 15, 16, 56
<b>G</b>	
<b>Ganja.</b>	
Raising of the issue price of ...	41
System of sale ...	45
Consumption per head of population ...	45
<b>Gazette.</b>	181
<b>General Hospital</b>	
At Trivandrum ...	140, 141
Opening of department of Electro-therapeutics.	141
<b>Geological Department.</b>	
Mineral survey ...	103
Underground water survey	103
Mineral production ...	103
<b>Ginger.</b>	
Experimental cultivation of ...	97
<b>Girls' Schools.</b>	
Special attention paid to singing, needle-work etc. ...	149, 163
Separate inspectorate for ...	150
English schools ...	158
Vernacular schools ...	159
Number and strength of...	159, 160
Distribution of girls among institutions ...	161
Examination results ...	162
Special classes ...	162
Co-education ...	162, 163

	PAGE
<b>H</b>	
<b>High Court</b>	
Powers of ...	60, 61
Recruitment of judges ...	62
Criminal work in the year ...	67, 68
Civil work in the year ...	74
<b>Hinduism</b>	
Predominant religion ...	2, 3
Hindu orphanage ...	166
Hindu population ...	3
<b>Hospitals</b>	
Number of ...	138
Patients treated in ...	138, 139
Mid-wives in ...	139
Nursing staff in ...	139
General Hospital, Trivandrum ...	140
Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum...	141
Victoria Hospital, Quilon..	141
Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum ...	141
Hospital for Lepers, Trivandrum ...	142
Hospital for Mental Diseases, Trivandrum...	142
Ayurveda Hospital at Trivandrum ...	143
<b>Hostels</b>	
Collegiate Hostel ...	155
Arts College Hostel ..	156
Government Hostel for Women ...	156
Training College Hostel...	157
Private hostels ...	165
<b>I</b>	
<b>Imports</b>	
Chief articles imported ..	133, 134
Per capita value of ...	133
Value of rice imported ..	134
System of levy of import duty ...	48, 49
Chief sources of ...	48, 49
<b>Income-tax</b>	
Commissioner of ...	33
Administration of ...	33
Demand, collection and balance ...	34
Incidence of taxation...	34
Statement of revenue and expenditure ..	34, 35
<b>Industries Department</b>	
Director ...	103
Industrial researches ..	104



	PAGE
Experimental tannery ...	104
Textile work ...	104, 105
Industrial engineering ...	105
Cottage industries ...	105
Factory industries ...	101, 105
Industrial education ...	106, 107, 108
Receipts and expenditure..	101, 109
<b>Industrial Chemist</b>	
Work done by ...	104
<b>Industrial Engineer</b>	
Work done by ...	105
<b>Industrial Loans</b>	
Grant of, in 1102 ...	107
Rules for issue of ...	108
Legislation regarding grant of ...	108
Amount of, in 1102 ...	20
<b>Insurance</b>	
State Life Insurance ...	187
<b>Irrigation</b>	
Minor irrigation works, fall of outlay on ...	17
Extension of wet cultivation in the Kodayar Irrigation area ...	29
Irrigation boards ...	29
Popularisation of advanced types of implements by the Agricultural department ...	95
Productive irrigation, receipts from ...	15
Protective irrigation works ...	124, 125
Kodayar irrigation system..	125
<b>J</b>	
<i>Jacob, A. M.</i>	
Chemical Examiner ...	148
<b>Joint Stock Companies</b>	
Registrar of ...	111
Number and work of ...	111
<b>Jenmam Lands</b>	
Nature of their tenure ...	21, 22
Principles of taxation ...	22
<i>Joseph Thaliath</i>	
Judge, High Court ...	60
<b>Justice and Crime</b>	
Chief Justice ..	60
Judicial system ...	60, 61, 62
Recruitment of the Judiciary ...	62
Tenure of office of judges and munsiffs..	62, 63
Independence of the Judiciary ...	63
Receipts and expenditure ...	75

	PAGE
<b>K</b>	
<b>Kandukrishi Lands</b>	
Nature of their tenure ...	29, 30
Commutation of tax into money ...	23, 30
Release of tenants from Oozhium ...	30
<b>Kari Lands</b>	
Nature of soil ...	93
Reclamation of ...	93
<b>Kodayar</b>	
Irrigation system ...	125
<i>Krishna Pillai R.</i>	
Devaswom Commissioner..	173
<i>Kunjan Pillai, N.</i>	
Director of Agriculture and Fisheries ...	92
<b>Kuttanad</b>	
Paddy cultivation in ...	1
Soil survey of ...	92, 93
<b>L</b>	
<b>Land Colonisation.</b>	
Reconstitution of committees for ...	29
<b>Land Colonisation Scheme.</b>	
Proposals of the Economic Development Board ...	110
<b>Lands (Government)</b>	
Rise in receipts from ...	15, 25
Rules for assignment of... ..	24
Accounting of sale proceeds ...	25
Disposal of puduval lands..	26
Disposal of waste lands...	26
Lands for landless classes..	27
Lands for ex-service men..	27
Puduval rules committee..	28
Assignment to non-Travancoreans, debate in the Legislative Council ...	78
<b>Land Records,</b>	
Staff for maintenance of ..	30
Revision of rules for maintenance of ...	30
<b>Land Revenue</b>	
Commissioner of ...	21
Different kinds of land tenures ...	21
Principles of taxation ...	22
Revenue settlements ...	22
Method of assessment ...	23
Tax payment in money ...	23
Administration of ...	24
Demand, collection and balance ...	25
Coercive action ...	25
Revenue cases ...	26

	PAGE		PAGE
Statement of receipts and expenditure	14, 15, 32, 33	<b>Malayalam manuscripts.</b>	
<b>Law College</b>	151, 168, 169	Publication of	184
<b>Legislation</b>		<b>Maramat Department</b>	
Earliest enactment, in 1825.	9	Maximum Engineer	127
<b>Legislative Council</b>		Scope of work	127
Origin and growth of	10, 11	Works done in 1102	128
Ruler's prerogative of direct legislation	10, 11, 12	<b>Marini, G.</b>	
Present constitution—		Railway Engineer and Advisor to Government on Railways	128
electoral majority	11	<b>Markets.</b>	
Administrative functions..	12	Number and receipts	28
Franchise	12	Sanitation of	146
Present powers of	12	<b>Medical Department.</b>	
Franchise for women	12	Administrative Board	
Membership for women	12	Medical Services	137
Regulations passed in the year	76	System of medical aid	137
Bills introduced	77	Opening of new medical institutions	138
Financial business	77	Number of patients treated	138, 139
Questions asked, allowed, and answered	77	Child welfare work	139
Resolutions tabled	77	Nursing staff	139
<b>Leprosy</b>		Treatment of leprosy	140
Successful treatment of...	140, 141	Treatment of tuberculosis.	140
Opening of a new settlement	140	Special institutions	140, 141, 142
<b>Lerrett, G.</b>		Receipts and expenditure.	14, 17, 143
Principal Port Officer	134	<b>Mental diseases.</b>	
<b>Libraries.</b>		Hospital for treatment of.	142
Industrial library	108	<b>Minerals.</b>	
Trivandrum Public Library	151, 186	Survey of, by the Geological department	103
Science College Library	155	Production and export of.	103
Arts College Library	156	<b>Mint.</b>	
Grants in-aid to	167	Control	179
<b>Local Self-Government</b>		Minting	179
Nature of	170	Finances	179
Public health administration	170, 171	Coins	179, 180
Finances	171	<b>Monsoons</b>	
Incidence of taxation	172	Period of	2
<b>Lock-ups</b>	88	Rainfall in the year	92
<b>M</b>		<b>Motor traffic.</b>	
<b>Magistrates' Courts</b>		Control of by the Police...	83
Powers of	61, 62	Appointment of additional Inspectors	83
Work done in the year	65, 66	Fall in the number of offences under the Motor Vehicles Regulation	83
<b>Mahomedans.</b>		<b>Munsiffs' Courts.</b>	
Strength of population	3	Powers of	61
Progress of education among	153, 164	Recruitment of Munsiffs,	62

	PAGE		PAGE
Tenure of office of Munsiffs ...	62	<i>Parameswara Menon, K. G.</i>	
Work done in the year ...	71 72	Judge, High Court ...	60
<b>Museum</b> ...	185, 186	<i>Parameswaran Pillai, Ch. K.</i>	
<b>N</b>		Judge, High Court ...	60
<i>Nagam Pillai, C. K.</i>		<b>Patents and designs.</b> ...	120
Anchal Superintendent ...	129	Controller of ...	120
<b>Nairs.</b>		<b>Pepper.</b>	
Partition of property		Cultivation of ...	97
among ...	25, 89	Treatment of diseases of... ..	97
Wills registered by ...	90	Export duty on ...	48
Co-operative societies of .	113	Increase in quantity ex- ported ...	50
Decrease in the number of pupils among ...	153	<b>Periodicals</b> ...	185
<b>Nanjanad.</b>		<i>Pitt, W. H.</i>	
Paddy cultivation in ...	1	Commissioner of Police ...	79
Soil survey of ...	93	<b>Police.</b>	
<i>Natesa Iyer, K. V.</i>		Commissioner of ...	79
Retired Chief Engineer ...	121	Strength, recruitment and discipline of ...	79
<b>Newspapers</b> ...	185	Crimes reported ...	80
<b>O</b>		Implements used in crimes ...	81
<b>Observatory</b> ...	186	Counterfeiting of cur- rency ...	81
<b>Offences</b>		Finger-print Bureau ...	83
Fall in number of, under the Penal Code ...	63	Control of motor traffic ...	83
Rise in number of, under local and special laws .	63, 64	Receipts and expendi- ture ...	84
Female offenders ...	64	<i>Poomen Lukose.</i>	
Juvenile offenders ...	64	Senior Surgeon, Women's Medical service ...	137
Excise offences ...	46, 47	<b>Pooram</b>	
Forest offences ...	55, 56	At Shertallai, stoppage of obscene songs ...	177
Under the Motor Vehicles Regulation ...	63, 83	<b>Popular Assembly.</b>	
Counterfeiting of currency ...	81	Origin and functions of ...	13
<b>Ophthalmic Hospital</b> at Trivandrum ...	141	Composition of ...	13
<b>Opium</b>		Business Proceedings ...	13
System of sale ...	45	Twenty-third session of... ..	190
Fall in consumption per head of population ...	45	<b>Ports.</b>	
<b>Orphanages.</b> ...	166	Principal Port Officer ...	134
<b>P</b>		Work of the Department... ..	134
<b>Paddy.</b>		Shipping ...	135
Experiments in cultiva- tion of ...	95	Alleppey Port ...	135
Eradication of pests ...	96	Pier at Quilon Port ...	126, 135
Fall in quantity import- ed ...	133	Shipping at Colachel ...	135
<b>Pandaravaka Lands.</b>		Receipts and expendi- ture of the department... ..	136
Nature of their tenure... ..	21, 22	<b>Poultry Farming</b> ...	98, 113
Taxation on ..	22	<b>Press.</b>	
		Government Press ...	181
		Plant ...	181
		Out-turn ...	181
		Receipts and expenditure ...	182

	PAGE		PAGE
Private Presses—num- ber of and publica- tions from ...	185	Fall in expenditure on the Quilon—Trivandrum line ...	17
<b>Primary Education.</b>		Extension of Railway from Chakai to Tamba- nur ...	128, 129
System of instruction ...	149	Receipts and expenditure. ...	14, 15, 16, 17, 129
Free imparting of ...	149	Railway Engineer ...	128
Aim to make it uni- versal ...	150	Survey of the Quilon— Ernakulam line, Maveli- kara—Cochin line, Trip- punithura—Muvattu- puzha—Neriamangalam line ...	128, 129
Percentage of pupils attending Primary Schools ...	152	<i>Raman Tampi, K.</i> Inspecting Medical Officer ...	137
<b>Public Gardens</b> ...	185	<i>Ramasubba Iyer, K. N.</i> Controlling Officer of Stamps ...	57
<b>Public Servants.</b>		<i>Ramaswami Iyer, O. S.</i> Maramat Engineer ...	127
Number prosecuted ...	64, 65	<b>Reformatory School.</b> Strength of ...	163
<b>Public Works Department.</b>		Instruction imparted ...	163
Contract works done by Co-operative societies ...	118	<b>Registration.</b> Director of ...	89
Chief Engineer ...	121	Registry offices ...	89
Grant and outlay ...	121, 122	Documents, presented and registered ...	89
Communications, develop- ment of ...	122, 123	Value of registered trans- actions ...	89
Buildings, construction of ...	124	Classification of regis- tered documents ...	89
Outlay on buildings, lowest during the past 7 years. ...	124	Chitties registered ...	90
Protective irrigation works ...	124, 125	Receipts and expenditure. ...	14, 15, 16, 91
Outlay on establishment... ..	125	<i>Rendle, A. C.</i> Member, Administrative Board, Medical services. ...	137
Western Outlet Road ...	126	<b>Revenue Survey.</b> Superintendent of ...	21
Trivandrum Water Sup- ply ...	126	Work done by the depart- ment ...	31, 32
Trivandrum Electric Sup- ply ...	126	<b>Rice.</b> Staple food of the people. ...	2
Quilon pier ...	126	Conditions of growth of plant on punja lands ...	93
Trivandrum Telephone System ...	126	Fall in quantity imported. ...	133
Alleppey - Cochin Tele- phone scheme ...	127	<i>Robinson, S. C. H.</i> Commissioner of Land Revenue ...	21
Receipts and expendi- ture ...	14, 15, 16, 17, 127	Commissioner of Income- tax ...	33
<b>Puduval lands.</b>			
Disposal of ...	26		
<b>Puduval Rules Committee</b> ...	28		
<b>Purda.</b>			
Practically non-existent in the State ...	3		
<b>R</b>			
<b>Railways.</b>			
Increase in net receipts from the Shencotta— Trivandrum line ...	16		

	PAGE		PAGE
<b>Royal trees.</b>		<b>Soil Survey.</b>	
Kinds of trees ...	51	Its object ...	93
Timber extracted from ...	54	Its results in Travancore..	93, 94
Debate in the Legislative Council on Kudivila on ...	78	<b>Sripadom lands.</b>	
<b>Rubber.</b>		Commutation of tax into money ...	23
Experimental cultivation of ...	97	<b>Stamps.</b>	
Value of exports in ...	134	Controlling Officer ...	57
<b>Ruling Family</b> ..	5	Control of ...	57
<b>Ryots' Roads.</b>		Manufacture of. ...	58
Departmental maintenance of ...	123	Value of ...	58
		Receipts and expenditure..	14, 15, 16, 59
<b>S</b>		<b>State-Aided Bank.</b>	
<b>Salt.</b>		Government deposits in... ..	20
Commissioner of salt-revenue ...	35	Opening of, in the year ...	111
Control of ...	35	<b>Stationery Department.</b>	182, 183
System of salt revenue administration ...	35, 36	<i>Stephenson, J.</i>	
Home-salt, increase in out-turn ...	36, 37	Director of Public Instruction ...	149, 153
Foreign salt, fall in quantity imported ...	37	<i>Subrahmonya Iyer, V. S.</i>	
Total quantity of salt consumed ...	38	Judge, High Court ...	60
Average consumption per head of population ...	38	<b>Survey</b>	
Receipts and expenditure, from ...	15, 38, 39	Training of revenue officers in ...	31
<b>Sanitary Department.</b>		Work of Survey Department ...	31, 32
Commissioner ...	145	Survey Schools ...	32
Work of ...	145	Survey of village sites ...	32
Vital statistics registration ...	145, 146	Soil survey ...	92, 93
Vaccination ...	146		
Rural sanitation ...	146	<b>T</b>	
Prevention of epidemics... ..	147	<b>Tamil Schools</b> ...	161
Receipts and expenditure... ..	147, 148	<b>Tanneries</b> ...	104
<i>Sankara Menon, K.</i>		<b>Tapioca.</b>	
Director of Ayurveda ...	143	Staple food of the people... ..	2
<b>Sanskrit Schools.</b>	164	Experiments in cultivation of ...	96, 97
<b>Sanskrit Manuscripts.</b>		Investigation of diseases of ...	97
Publication of ...	183, 184	<b>Taungya system.</b>	33, 54
<b>Satroms.</b>		<b>Taxation</b>	
Improvement of ...	127	Principles followed ...	9
<b>Savings Banks</b> ...	188, 189, 190	Chief sources of ...	9, 10
<b>Sericulture.</b>		Incidence of land revenue. ...	9
Promotion of, by the Agricultural Department ...	98	Taxes in municipalities ...	172
<b>Sessions Courts.</b>		<b>Tea.</b>	
Powers of ...	61	Export duty on ...	16, 49
Work done in the year ...	67	Value of exports in ...	134
<b>Sisters of the Holy Cross.</b>		<b>Technical Education</b>	
Employment as nurses ...	139, 142	Training schools ...	163
		Teaching of Manual Training. ...	167
		Teaching of spinning ...	167
		<b>Telephone</b>	
		Scheme for Trivandrum... ..	105, 126

	PAGE
Connection between Alleppey and Cochin ...	127
<b>Text Book Committee</b> ...	167
<b>Textile Expert</b>	
Work done in the year ...	104
<i>Thackwell, A. C. A.</i>	
Commandant, Nayar Brigade ...	84
<i>Tireman, H.</i>	
Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras ...	53
<b>Tirumadampu</b>	
Of His Highness the Maharaja ...	6
Significance of ceremony, ...	6, 7
Expenditure for the ceremony ...	7
Maramat works done in connection with ...	128
<b>Tobacco</b>	
System of supply and sale ...	46
Fall in consumption per head of population ...	46
Bulk of import duty, derived from ...	16, 49
<b>Toddy</b>	
Reduction of the number of shops ...	41, 42
Enhancement of tree-tax ...	43
<b>Trade</b>	
Total value of ...	133
Routes of ...	133
Direction of ...	134
Imports and exports ...	133, 134
<b>Travancore</b>	
Situation and area ...	1
Physical features ...	1, 2
Population ...	2
Area compared with that of other States ...	3
Historical sketch ...	3, 4
Calendar ...	4
Currency ...	5
Ruling Family ...	5
Agent to the Governor-General ...	7
<b>Tuberculosis</b>	
Spread of the disease ...	140
Treatment of ...	140
Opening of a sanatorium ...	140
<i>Turner, G. F.</i>	
Commandant, Nayar Brigade ...	84

	PAGE
<b>Y</b>	
<b>Vaccination</b>	
By the Sanitary Department ...	146
In Municipalities ...	171
<i>Vadyalingam Pillai, R.</i>	
Registrar of Co-operative Societies ...	113
<i>Van Rens, A. J.</i>	
Commissioner of Excise ...	35, 39
<i>Venkatarama Iyer, A.</i>	
Judge, High Court ...	60
<i>Venkata Rao, K.</i>	
Director of Registration ...	89
<b>Vernacular Schools</b>	
System of instruction in ...	149, 150
Separate Inspectorate for ...	150
Number and strength of ...	160
Double-shift system stoppage of ...	160
Teachers' associations ...	160
Tamil schools ...	161
Expenditure on ...	161
<b>Veterinary Department</b>	
Work of ...	99, 100
Grants-in-aid to native <i>Vaidiyans</i> ...	100
<b>Victoria Hospital</b>	
At Quilon ...	141
<b>Village Panchayat Courts</b>	
Powers of ...	61
Work done in the year ...	71
<b>Vital Statistics</b> ...	145, 146
<b>W</b>	
<b>Water Supply</b>	
For Trivandrum ...	126
<b>Weaving</b>	
Promotion of, by the Agricultural Department ...	99
In Industrial Schools ...	107
Promotion by Co-operative Societies ...	113
<b>Wells</b>	
Sinking of, by the Public Works department ...	125
<b>Weights and Measures</b> ...	91
<b>Women and Children's Hospital</b> at Trivandrum ...	141